The North-Eastern Daily Gazette.

ESTABLISHED 1869. THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1891. PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

COUNTANT'S CERTIFICATE.

WILLIAM BARCLAY PEAT, a member of the firm of Mackay & Co., Chartered Accountants, of 3, Pancras-lane, E.C., and Royal Exchange, Manchester, make oath and say that I have examined the books relating to the Printing and Publishing Department of the North-Eastern Daily Gazette, Middlesbrough-on-Tees, and find that the net number of Papers printed and published during the three months from 1st October to 31st December, 1890, was

4,112,829,

being an average for the 78 days during that three months on which the Paper was printed of

52,728

COPIES PER DAY.

W. E. PEAT,

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Sworn at Lothbury, in the City of London, this 8th day of January, 1891, before me,

THOS. B. CARTWRIGHT,

A Commissioner to administer oaths in the Supreme Court of Judicature in England.

Public Companies.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST was OPENED on the 26th of Jan., and will CLOSE on or before the 10th day of Feb., 1891.

THE MARSKBOROUGH NEW HYDROPATHIC COMPANY, LIMITED.—Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1890. Share Capital, £10,000, divided into 1,000 Six per cent. Preference Shares of £5 each, cumulative as to dividend and preference as to capital, and 4,000 Ordinary Shares of £5 each, of which 1,000 Shares fully paid up are issued by the vendor in part payment of the purchase-money, and will not rank for dividend until 5 per cent. has been paid on the Ordinary Shares, and the balance of 2,000 Shares, of which 1,250 are now offered for public subscription, payable—£1 per Share, £1 on Application and £4 on Allotment of the Ordinary Shares. £1 on Application and £5 on the 1st March, 1891, and intended to make any further issue of the Ordinary Shares. In addition to the above Capital, it is proposed to issue 140 Debentures of £100 each (secured by the mortgage and hereditaments) to be at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and payable 10 per cent. on Application and the balance in instalments. The dividend on the Ordinary Shares will be payable yearly, but the Articles of Association provide for the payment of interim dividends.

DIRECTORS.

JOHN HALL SMALLWOOD, Esq., Scarborough, Bank Manager.

WILLIAM HUTCHINSON, Esq., 23, Westbourne-grove, Scarborough, Gentleman.

JOHN HOLMES, Esq., Gentleman.

JOHN HUNT, J.P., 5, West Park-terrace, Scarborough, Shipowner.

JOHN WILLIAM HUTTON, Esq., 22, Albemarle crescent, Scarborough, Gentleman.

JOHN COLLINS, Esq., Marshfield Mills, Bradford, Manufacturer.

GEORGE CLARKE BARTON, Esq., The Douglas Hotel, Manchester, Hotel Proprietor.

ROBERT BOOTH WELLS, Esq., Scarborough, Chartered Accountant.

(Will join the Board after Allotment.)

BANKERS.

The City and County Bank, Limited, York, and their Branches.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. FRANK FLETCHER, JUN., Westborough, Scarborough.

Messrs. HARBOTTLE, LUPTON, AND FAWCETT, 26 and 27, Bond street, Leeds.

AUDITOR.

CHARLES E. BRADLEY, Chartered Accountant, Scarborough.

CONSULTING PHYSICIAN.

The Mayoralty Medicine, M.R.C.S., Scarborough.

SECRETARY.

Mr. ESTEL CHARLES PLAYER, Chartered Accountant, Leeds and Scarborough.

REGISTERED OFFICE.

2, St. Nicholas-street, Scarborough.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

The Company is formed to purchase and carry on the Hydropathic Establishment, situate at West Bank, Marsk, belonging to Mr. R. B. D. Wells, and the business connected therewith.

The Establishment was erected for Mr Wells in the year 1889.

The establishment, as originally built, afforded accommodation for upwards of 100 visitors.

During the first summer that the "Hydro" was open the number of visitors was so large that Mr Wells began to enlarge the establishment. The new wing will be ready for occupation in the spring.

The profits of 16 people during the months of July, August and September in 1889 averaged 60 per week, while during the summer months in last year the average was 85. During last season 354 visitors had to be refused for want of accommodation. The number of visitors during the months of October, November, and December in last year averaged 50 per week.

There is no other Hydropathic Establishment in the neighbourhood.

The following particulars business, goodwill, furniture, stock-in-trade, fixtures, stores, mechanical appliances, and all other effects in the Establishment are being acquired by the Company direct from the Vendor at the price of £5,000. The Vendor has agreed to take £5,000 of the purchase-money in ordinary shares and the balance in cash.

The Company does not take over any book debts.

The above property is to be acquired by the Company free and clear of all charges.

The above has been valued on behalf of the Company by Mr. Peter Pritchett, Architect (subject to additions to the "Hydro" being completed) at £6,000.

By an agreement with Mr Wells provides that he shall not erect any new buildings over to the Company quite close.

The goodwill, furniture, and other effects have been valued at the value put upon them by Mr Wells, but the Directors are of opinion that the prices so fixed is fair and reasonable.

A favourable opinion of the business is shown by the following certificate of Mr Bradley, chartered accountant of Scarborough, who invested gated the books on behalf of the Company:—

"To the Directors of the Scarborough New Hydropathic Company, Limited.

"Gentlemen,—In accordance with your instructions I have examined the books and accounts of Mr R. B. D. Wells, of the Scarborough New Hydropathic Establishment, for the period from the 6th May, 1889, to the 31st December, 1890. I certify that according to the books have been kept, and the trading and profit and loss accounts which have been subsequently prepared, and which I have thoroughly checked with the books and vouchers and found in accordance therewith, show the profits for the above-mentioned period to be £2,858 1s 2d. In arriving at such profits has been made for interest on capital, rent, or manager's salary. The preliminary expenses incurred early in 1889 and the alterations in the since May of the same year, have been made for depreciation.—Yours faithfully, CHARLES E. BRADLEY.

The purchase price to be apportioned to the several buildings to be erected have been, and the rate of profit is the smallest that could be expected it is will be the case), it is believed that the shareholders may rely upon a dividend of

The favourable nature of hydropathic establishments is apparent from the dividends which have been paid by other Hydropathic Company, Limited, commenced in 1880, 8 per cent.

The Scarborough Hydropathic Company, Limited, commenced in 1880, 8 per cent.

The Harrogate Hydropathic Company, Limited, have paid 5 per cent. for 7 years during which time a dividend and an interim dividend of 4 per cent., and 3 per cent.

The Buxton Hydropathic Company, Limited, divided 10 per cent. for each of the eleven years ending 1889, 15 per cent.

The Ordinary Shares of the last Company, on the 1st January, 1890, are quoted on the Stock Exchange at 142 to 152.

No Commission or money has been or will be paid.

Forms of application for shares may be obtained at the Company's Bankers, Solicitors, Broker, or at the Offices.

January, 1891.

Education.

A. HARRIS, A.C.O.—Lessons Organ, Piano, Singing, Harmony. 38, St. Paul's-road, Scarborough.

ARLINGTON.—Lessons on Pianoforte, Harmonium, and Organ; Harmony and Singing. 3, Grey-terrace, Middlesbrough.

MUSICAL ACADEMY, 35, Albert-road, Middlesbrough.—Principal: T. B. Parsons, Mus. Bac., on the Violin, Mandoline, Piano, Banjo, &c. Terms for safe cheap.

MIDDLESBROUGH GRAMMAR SCHOOL, 77, Grange-road W.—Very successful Commercial, Scientific, and Drawing Classes, including French. Last term began Jan. 12th, 1891. 42s per term. Next term January 12th, 1891.—Mr Short's Classes: Improvers, Monday; Learners, Wednesday. Private lessons by hour. Value guaranteed. Juveniles, 1s.

MISS WALTON, Teacher of Drawing, Oil and Water Colour Painting, &c., will resume her Classes on TUESDAY, January 20th. Artists' Residence, Marton-road, Middlesbrough. F6

DARLINGTON PARK, near Huntingdon.—JUNIOR PUPILS EDUCATED while being cured of their STAMMERING. Principal, Mr. Bell, Author of "Stammering: Its Treatment." Stammerers should read this book, post free 18 stamps.

DANCING.—MRS RENTON will RESUME her CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS ONLY on Monday, 12th. Every attention given. Private lessons by appointment. Terms moderate. Value guaranteed. 12, B shopton-lane, Stockton-on-Tees.

MARINE ENGINEERS' ACADEMY, 3, John Channing, Church-street, West Hartlepool. Principal: S. HODGSON, M.I. Mar. Eng.—All pupils from this Academy have been for first-class and successful. In all examinations they have passed in the 1st; whilst in a recent competition at North Shields the only Pupil there who passed full marks and special commendation for the first time with the new questions correctly: the seven for first-class from other schools nil. 31

Hotels, etc.

ORMSON.—WILDE'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 34 and 36, Lingrake Hill; home comforts; cleanliness and Central for business or pleasure.

LIVERPOOL.—"COMPTON HOTEL," Charmingly situated for its Comfort, Excellent Cuisine, Choice Wines, and MODERATE CHARGES. Patronised by the best Shops, Stations, &c.

WINTER HEALTH RESORT.—GRANGE HYDRO, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS.—Splendid Sunny Aspect, Home Comforts, Baths, Billiards, &c. Special Winter Terms from 30s per week.

SALES: Any quantity at the Chemical Works, Middlesbrough, for carting away.

Public Notices.

AFTERNOON EXCURSION—From the Harlepools, North Stockton, &c., to LEEDS, on SATURDAY, January 31st. See bills. 30

ONE NIGHT ONLY, FRIDAY, February 6th, 1891. ROYAL POLAND-STREET HANDBELL RINGERS.

TEMPERANCE HALL, MIDDLESBROUGH. F2

STEAMER BEAR RELIEF FUND.—The steamer Bear, of Middlesbrough, was run down in the Firth of Forth on Sunday, the 11th inst., and as there are twelve Widows and eight thirty-eight Orphans of the crew left unprovided for, a large and influential Committee has been formed for the purpose of raising a Fund for the relief of such of them as it may in the opinion of the Committee be necessary to relieve.

Believing the object to be a thoroughly deserving one, this Committee earnestly hope that the public of Middlesbrough, Whitby, Filey, and Kirkwall will co-operate in carrying the movement to a successful issue.

Subscriptions will be gratefully received by any of the Committee or by the undersigned.

M. G. COLLINGWOOD (Mayor), Treasurer.
ALFRED ROCKWOOD, Honorary Secretary.
Municipal Buildings, Middlesbrough, January, 1891.

EXCHANGE HALL, STOCKTON.

CANON TALBOT

Will deliver a Course of Six Lectures on

THE ENGLISH REFORMATION.

Third Lecture, JANUARY 30TH.

Subject:—

"THE BREACH WITH ROME."

Splendid Lantern Illustrations.

To commence at 8. Tickets for Course, 2s; unreserved, 6d: single lecture, 6d and 2d.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

TEMPERANCE HALL, DOVECOT-STREET, STOCKTON.

Owing to the increasing demand for the Medical Batteries,

HERR COHEN

will attend in his rooms daily from 10 to 1.30, 3 to 5, and 7 to 9, for the Sale of the Batteries. Private Phrenological Examinations and Consultations daily.

THE REV. CHARLES GAMBERT says:—"I would recommend every parent to consult Herr Cohen regarding the training of their children. I have taken several of my own children to him for examination, and the advice he gave as to their mental and physical education was most valuable, and nothing could be more correct than the delineations he gave of their characters and dispositions."—Note: Entrance to Herr Cohen's Rooms by side door only; Prince-of-Wales-street. 31

OXFORD PALACE, Middlesbrough.—THIS WEEK:—Menotti, High Telephone Wire Cyclist, First Champion of the World; Mr Albert Rivers, Miss Emma Wills in, The Leggetts, Miss Julia Stevens, Mr H. F. Higo, Miss Belle Byrne; Young Slo 4, of Dudley, the Champion Jumper.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.

LAST TWO WEEKS

And continued success of the PANTOMIME.

FRIDAY, January 30th, Benefit of MR EDWARD S. GOFTON,

Stage Director, under the patronage of

THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION OF MIDDLESBROUGH.

(M. G. Collingwood, Esq., and Mrs Collingwood).

The leading families of the North Riding, and the Chairman, Directors, and Members of the IRONOPOLIS FOOTBALL CLUB,

Produce on of a new jeptie Comedy by Mrs Hugh Bell, Red Barns,

"BETWEEN THE POSTS"

A CONCERT,

In which the following artistes will appear:—

MADAME ALICE BARTH,

MISS KATIE LEECHMAN,

MR. EDWARD S. GOFTON,

Mr JOE JONES, Tenor;

THE MR JESSE ROBERTS, Bass,

Winner of the Contest at the recent Eisteddfod; and

Mr. T. B. LANTON,

The eminent Baritone of Mr Sims Reeves' Concerts.

GLEE. Hatton's "Tar's Song."

BY THE THEATRE ROYAL GLEE PARTY.

NEW WALSE ..... by "JOAN."

Composed by H. A. JORDISON, Esq., and arranged by SAM POTTER, Esq., especially for this occasion.

To conclude with the Original SCENES from SINDBAD, ESQ.,

Terminating with the Palace Scene.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON.

Lessee and Manager ..... Mr LLOYD CLARENCE.

LAST NIGHTS OF THE PANTOMIME,

"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT."

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30TH.

EXTRA SPECIAL NIGHT FOR THE BENEFIT OF MR JAMES BELL

("Simple Simon").

A HOST OF EXTRA ATTRACTIONS.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31ST,

LAST NIGHT OF THE PANTOMIME.

GAIETY THEATRE, West Hartlepool.—This Week, Special Engagement of the HARBOUR LIGHTS.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE, Lambton-street (off Lynn-street), West Hartlepool.—This week:—THE OLYMPIAN QUINTETTE, Cornish Hauly, Sangers, and Bros. Slocomb, in "The Return from Kansas." Miss ADA RIPPON, Mr HARRY CARSDALE, the World-renowned Mimic. Miss LOUIE PRAMPTON, talented Serio-Comedienne. Mr GEORGE LASHWOOD, with his Great Song "Love and Honour." NITA and NIKITA, the Beautiful Lady Parlour Athletes. PROF. DE WYNNE, Shadowgraphist. Mr J. W. HALL, Vocal Comedian. Messrs LE CLAIR and LESLIE.

THEATRE ROYAL, NEWCASTLE.

GIGANTIC SUCCESS OF

"DICK WHITTINGTON."

LOOK OUT FOR THE TRIPS!

THE LOCAL FOOTBALL TEAMS,

Including

MIDDLESBROUGH,
DARLINGTON,
STOCKTON,
DURHAM,
HARTLEPOOL, &c.,

Received with cheers every Performance.

SATURDAYS AT TWO. EVERY NIGHT AT SEVEN.

TYNE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.

ENORMOUS SUCCESS AND MAGNIFICENT RECEPTION OF AUGUSTUS HARRIS'S FOURTH ANNUAL PANTOMIME,

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK,

The whole produced under the direction of VICTOR STEVENS.

An exceptionally Powerful Company are engaged, including:—

MISS FANNIE LESLIE

(The Premier Boy in Pantomime),

Miss Patti Haywood, Mr Harry Fosbier,
Miss Alice Carleton, Mr Harry Kilburn,
Miss Lily Morrison, Mr Johnny Aldcroft,
Miss Lillie Richardson, Mr H. M. Clifford,

and

MR VICTOR STEVENS.

EVERY NIGHT AT SEVEN. EVERY SATURDAY AT TWO.

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK.

PRICES AS USUAL.

Box Office (T. Henderson) open daily from 11 to 4, Saturdays 11 to 2.

STOCKTON AND DISTRICT PERFECT THRIFT BUILDING SOCIETY.—A large number of members already entered. Members enrolled daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and explanatory pamphlets to be obtained from the Secretary, WM. SUDLOW, 13, Nelson-terrace, Stockton. First Ballot will shortly take place. Be in time. r2

18th year of Professional Visits to the North.

LEEDS EYE AND EAR DISPENSARY, Open daily 10 to 6. Estd. 1871.

MR G. MITCHELL, Oculist and Aurist.

Attendance at

North-Eastern Hotel, Darlington, Monday, Feb. 2.
Black Lion Hotel, Sedgefield, Tuesday, Feb. 11.
Three Tuns Hotel, Durham, Saturday, Jan. 31.
Corporation Hotel, Middlesbrough, Saturday, Feb. 7.
Black Swan Hotel, Pickering, Monday, Feb. 16.
Railway Hotel, Northallerton, Wednesday, Feb. 4.
Golden Fleece Hotel, Thirsk, Monday, Feb. 9.
Hours: 11 to 4. Hours at Middlesbrough: 12 to 4.
Artificial Eyes fitted from 2s 6d. Spectacles, &c. supplied.

YORKSHIRE PENNY BANK THE MIDDLESBROUGH BRANCH

Is Open daily at 5, LINTHORPE-ROAD, from 10 to 3, Saturdays 10 to 1, and Saturday evenings from 6 to 8.

Any amount may be deposited at

5 per cent. interest allowed.

£20, or any smaller amount, may be withdrawn without notice, and larger sums on giving one day's notice. Cheque books are issued.

ARTHUR FORSTER, MANAGER.

NORTH RIDING PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY, 43, Albert-rd., M'bro'. Sums of one shilling and upwards received on deposit at 4 per cent. interest. Withdrawable at short notice.

MRS BROWN, 5, Mill-lane, Stockton, Dress and Mantle Maker, only Certificated Teacher of the European System of Dress Cutting by Measurement. Pupils fit guaranteed. Day or Evening required. Ball and Evening Dresses in all the Latest Styles. r27

SCHOOL Trunks, Saratoga, American, Cabin, Imperial, and Overland Trunks, Dress Baskets, Bonnet and Hat Cases, Holdalls, Portmanteaus, Bags. Largest stock in Middlesbrough, 24, Cleveland-street, Middlesbrough; and Redcar.

SIXPENCE per load will be given by Sadler and Company for all rubbish carted from the Cleveland Chemical Works.

Lost and Found.

FOUND, a Scotch Cur, white and tan colour. Answers to Jess. Apply 11, Clarence-street, Haverton Hill. 31

Tenders.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

CREOSOTE OIL.—The Directors are prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of 200,000 to 300,000 Gallons (or any part thereof) of CREOSOTE OIL of the very best quality, free from all impurities, and to the Company's Creosote Works, North Dock, Monkwearmouth, or Greenland, West Hartlepool, as may be required.

Specification and Form of Tender may be obtained on application to Mr. J. S. Nuttall, Permanent Way Storekeeper, Central Station, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Sealed Tenders, marked "Tender for Creosote Oil," must be sent to the Secretary, at York, not later than noon on Saturday, 14th February, 1891.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

C. N. WILKINSON, Secretary.

York, 28th January, 1891.

TO BUILDERS.—TENDERS are required for the ERECTION of a FREE LIBRARY at South Stockton for T. Wrightson, Esq., J.P. Plans and Specification can be seen and Bills of Quantities obtained at my Office. Tenders, to be endorsed "Free Library," to be delivered to me not later than February 2nd, 1891.

H. WEATHERILL, Architect.

58, High-street, Stockton-on-Tees. 30

Situations Vacant.

ADVERTISEMENTS INSERTED UNDER THIS HEADING AT THE FOLLOWING PREPAID RATES:—
16 WORDS, 1 DAY, 6D.....3 DAYS, 1S 3D.....6 DAYS, 2S
24 WORDS, 1 DAY, 9D.....3 DAYS, 1S 5D.....6 DAYS, 3S
This applies to "private" wants only of Servants, &c.

APPRENTICE Wanted to the Upholstery. Carter and Co., Stockton-on-Tees. 29

APPRENTICES Wanted to the Dressmaking. Apply 8, Rutland-terrace, Oxbridge-lane, Stockton. 29

AGENCY for Servants, Miss Wright Derby House, Hartington-road, Stockton. Good situations.

AGENCY for Servants.—Miss Hayllar, 9, Bridge-road, Stockton. Good Servants Wanted.

AGENCY for Servants: Mrs Rudd, 33, Mandale-road, South Stockton. Moderate terms.

AGENTS Wanted, whole or spare time, commission and bonus. Ireton and Co., 92, Gracechurch-street, London.

AGENT Wanted; £25 per quarter, paid weekly; a splendid opening; experience unnecessary; specimens free. Address Compo Works, Farnworth, Bolton.

AGENTS Wanted; salary, £104 per year; constant work; experience unnecessary. Pendlebury and Co., 82, Harwich-road, Colchester.

AGENTS and Canvassers Wanted everywhere. For a really profitable agency address Co., 50, Caltthorpe-road, Camden, W.C. 14

AGENTS Wanted, whole or spare time; best paying agency going; liberal remuneration; goods constantly demanded, steady income assured; orders executed by return; sample packet stamp free. Rubber Stamp Co., 144, Soho Hill, London. 32

AGENTS Wanted for "Solette," the marvellous new boot repairer. Is applied like putty, but hot, sticks fast and immediately hardens, and wears like iron. Can sole heel, or repair boots in five minutes for a few pence. Also the "Hygia" Feet Warmers and the Asbestos Perpetual Lamp Wicks. Working samples 3d. each; to all who mean business, with show cards, bills, terms, &c., by parcel post, one shilling. For sample of either, 3d. Large earnings even in spare time. The G.E.N. Inventions Agency, 336, City-road, London.

BOOT Trade.—Wanted immediately, a Good General Workman. Apply, personally, John Murphy, Crook. 30

BARBERS.—Wanted, good Shaver and Haircutter. Apply J. Shanghit, Darlington-street, Harlepool. 29

BUSMAN Wanted; married preferred; good reference. Apply W. Wilson, Golden Lion Hotel Stokesley.

CIVIL Service.—Ages 14 to 35; salaries from £40 to £200; great demand in the Post Office for Ladies under 20; rapid preparation by correspondence and in class. N. Watson, Wilton-le-Wear, Darlington. 3

COLLIERY Locomotive Driver Wanted; constant employment; only first-class men need apply. Address Engineer, Broomhill Colliery, Acklington. 31

COLLECTOR-SALESMEN Wanted; sharp, intelligent Young Men with good references; exceptional terms to men of good ability. Apply, between 9 a.m. or 6 p.m., The Singer Manufacturing Co., 69, Newport-road, Middlesbrough.

CLERKS, Tradesmen, everybody learn D. E. Book-keeping without expense; appointments £80—£150 vacant. Particulars free, Sec., 25, Cambridge-avenue, Edinburgh. 31

CLERKSHIPS under Government ages 14 to 25; Ladies under 20. Ball, £50, £200. Open; thorough preparation by correspondence; passed over 1,200; 53 first places. Guide free. Write Mr Skerry, 27, Chancery-lane, London. 30

DRAPERY.—Active Junior Assistant Wanted for the general trade. Apply A. Applegarth, South Bank, R.S.O. 30

DRAPERY.—Wanted, a well-educated Youth as Apprentice to learn the general trade. A. Applegarth, South Bank, R.S.O. 30

DRESSMAKING.—Good, experienced, first-hand Dressmaker Wanted; good fit and style; also, Apprentices to the above. Apply 158, High-street, Stockton. 29

GROCERS.—Wanted, smart Junior; used to both counters; start at once. Apply Walter Willson, Haswell. r3

GROCERY.—Assistant Wanted; also, a Junior Apply Walter Willson, Stockton. 31

GENERAL Servant (good) Wanted immediately. Apply 8, Turner-street, Coatham. 30

GENERAL Servant (good) Wanted; reference required. Apply 32, Park-street, Middlesbrough.

GENERAL Servant Wanted, about 17; term. Apply Mrs Neligan, Middleton-in-Teesdale. 3

GENERAL Servant Wanted at once. Apply 4, Barrington-crescent, Stockton-on-Tees. 2

GENERAL Servant Wanted, February; character indispensable. 12, Russell-street, Stockton. 29

GENERAL Servant Wanted; and also a Nurse Girl. Apply Mrs Hardy, Front-street, Seaton Carew. 30

GENERAL Servant Wanted; one used to cooking preferred. Apply Victoria Inn, South Stockton. 30

GENERAL Wanted; fond of children; able to wash. Apply, between 6 and 7 any night this week, No. 10, Rutland-terrace, Oxbridge-lane, Stockton. 30

GENERAL Servant Wanted; must be good plain cook; accustomed to waiting in room. Apply Mrs Oates, Station Hotel, South Bank. 29

GENERAL (strong) Wanted, able to wash; early riser, with character. Apply Trevelyan Hotel, Skinner-street, Stockton. 2

GENERAL Servant (respectable) Wanted at once; reference required. Apply Mrs Longstaff, 3, Yarm-lane, Stockton. 31

GENERAL Servant Wanted immediately for Sunderland; small family; good wages. Miss Hayllar's Registry, Bridge-road, Stockton. 30

GENERAL Servants, with good references, Wanted. Address, with particulars, to Ingledew's Servants' Registry, Ocean-road, South Shields.

GENERAL Servant Wanted; and also a Nurse Girl. Apply Miss Hardy, Front-street, Seaton Carew.

GENERAL Servant Wanted in Clergyman's family; good plain cook; state age, wage, and references. Address A13, "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough.

GIRL (respectable) Wanted, about 14. Apply 40, Upper Jackson-street, South Bank. 29

GIRL Wanted, about 15; sleep at home. Apply after 6 p.m. at 30, St. Paul's-road, Middlesbrough. 29

GIRL (strong, respectable) Wanted; about 15; accustomed to children. 15, Edwards-street, Stockton. 29

GIRL Wanted, about 17, accustomed to children. Apply after 6 p.m., 11, Station-terrace, Stockton-on-Tees. 29

GIRL (respectable) Wanted, age 17, as General Servant; to sleep out; good character. Apply 38, Waterloo-road, Swatters Carr. Middlesbrough. 29

HOUSEMAID.—Wanted, by term, experienced Housemaid. Apply Mrs Kirk, Norton. 29

HOUSEMAID and Kitchenmaid Wanted at Ayton School. Apply Miss Scamell, Friends' School, Great Ayton. 30

HOUSEMAID.—Wanted, February 13th, experienced Housemaid for the country. Mrs Watson, Maithy House, Stockton-on-Tees. 31

HOUSEKEEPER (respectable) Wanted for working man; family six; state ages and wages. Ralph Watson, Co., New, Edmondsley, Chester-le-Street. 30

HOW To Make Money!—Write for samples and accept Agency for the Sale of Birks Bros.' wonderful Blended Teas; cheapest in England. Address Central Supply Stores, West Bar, Sheffield.

KNITTING Machines.—Harrison Gold Medal Swift; Wanted, buying agents. Works: 48, Upper Brook-street, Manchester.

LIMESTONE Quarrymen Wanted. Apply at South Weardale Quarries, near Barnard Castle. 30

LOAM Core-maker Wanted for plain straight pipes, cast vertically; piece work preferred. Address E. and W. H. Haley, Ironfounders, Bradford. 30

NURSE Wanted at once. Apply 2, Barrington-crescent, Stockton. 29

NURSE-HOUSEMAID (strong, active) Wanted, 14. Mrs Bambridge, Southfield Villa, Middlesbrough.

NURSE-HOUSEMAID Wanted, 25, one child; also, an experienced Housemaid and plain Cook; good wages. County Registry, Charles-street, West Hartlepool.

PAWNBROKER'S Assistant Wanted (male or female) to manage Branch; references required. Apply Myers, Queen-street, Stockton. 4

PROVISIONS.—Wanted, at once, to the Provision Trade, Junior Counter Assistant. Apply Rutherford, The Grocer, Spennymoor. 30

PLAIN Cook (good) Wanted; two in family, Mrs Sharrock, Ormesby Vicarage, Middlesbrough. 31

PLAIN Cook Wanted. Apply Mrs C. J. Archer Yarm. 29

PLAIN Cook Wanted for Business House. Apply Housekeeper, c/o Carter and Co., Stockton-on-Tees. 29

PLAIN Cook (good) Wanted immediately for family of two; no washing; housemaid kept. Apply, by letter, L, 2, Lorne-terrace, Stockton-on-Tees. 30

SERVANT.—Wanted, at February term, an experienced General Servant (plain cooking). Apply Mrs Fennell Brown, Eaglescliffe Junction.

SERVANTS' Agency, Central Buildings, Bishop Auckland.—Cooks, Housemaids, Kitchenmaids, Generals Wanted now and for the term. 31

TRANSFER P.T. or Assistant Mistress Wanted for Eaglescliffe National School. Apply Rector Eaglescliffe, Yarm. 29

WAREHOUSEMAN.—Wanted, for Carpet and Furnishing Department, Strong Young Man as above. Excellent character indispensable. 23

YOUTH Wanted for Cash Desk; must reside in town. Apply Walter Willson, Stockton. 31

YOUTHS (two) Wanted, to wait on Saturday nights; age about 18. Apply Excelsior Hotel, M'bro'. 28

YOUTH Wanted, immediately, to be Apprenticed as Pupil-Teacher, or Transfer Pupil-teacher. Apply Geo. Turner, St. Paul's School, Middlesbrough.

£2 WEEKLY and upwards may be realised by either sex, without hindering present occupation. For sample, &c., enclose addressed envelope, Evans, Wade, and Co., P186, Merchants, Birmingham. This is genuine.

Situations Wanted.

GROCERY and Provision.—Wanted, Situation by thoroughly-experienced Hand as Manager, Traveller, or Clerk and Stock-keeper; first-class references. Clerk, "Gazette" Office, Stockton.

SITUATION Wanted by respectable Young Woman as Housekeeper to Working Man. Address "Eleanor," "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough. 4

SITUATION as Housekeeper Wanted; public-house preferred; used to the trade; good reference. Address Box 21, "Gazette" Office, Stockton. 30

SITUATION Wanted as Working Housekeeper to working man. Apply Sarah, c/o Mrs Metcalfe, Bookseller, Guisborough. 3

SITUATION Wanted by respectable Person as Nurse or Sewingmaid. Address Miss E. Smith, 32, Clifterrace, Skinningrove, R.S.O. 29

SITUATION Wanted as Collector for Insurance Agent; aged 19. Apply 33, Georgina-street, South Stockton.

SITUATION Wanted by strong, respectable Youth as an Apprentice to the Pork Butchering Business; willing to learn. W. R., Rose Cottage, Whitby.

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BANKS, R.P. (late with D. Walton), 16, Dundas-st., M'bro., Plumber, Glazier, Gasfitter, and Electric Bell Fitter. Orders punctually attended to.

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PARTNER Wanted in Engineering and Plumbing Business on Rivers Tees and Wear. Apply W. Perry, Milton House, North Shields.

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ABOUT 300 Acres of good Mixed Sheep; easy rail access. Address Office, Stockton. 4

ADOPTION.—Wanted, by a respectable couple, Baby to adopt; premium dress Mrs Rudge, 40, Crescent-row, Sunderland.

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HOUSE (5-roomed) Wanted to Purchase, with immediate possession, in Knox, or Pembroke Streets, or in that M60, "Gazette" Office, Middlesbrough.

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SHOP Wanted to Lease or Purchase, in Durham. Middlesbrough. Apply Mr Bell, 30

SHOP Wanted in High-street, Stockton; good pushing business. Apply Whitehead and Sons, Sunderland.

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COTTAGE Garden and 32 acres of Land To Let. Apply Jas. Tomlinson, Northallerton.

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Property, Land, &c.

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SUBURBAN Residence (Fair Sites Thompson, Builder, Stockton.

TWO commodious Dwelling Houses, Grange-road West; House and Shop, 51, a substantial part of purchase money in mortgage at 5 per cent. Apply 190, Cleveland, Middlesbrough.

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Cream Enamelled Stoneware Filter, 1 gall., 14/-; 2 gall., 22/6; 3 gall., 28/6; 4 gall., 36/-; 5 gall., 44/-; 6 gall., 51/- each. Carriage paid.

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Best Wrot'd Long	1	1¼	1½	1¾	2	2¼	2½	2¾	3	ins.
Best Malt Axles	13	15	18	21	25	29	33	37	42	per pair.
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Patent Cart Arms	16	18	21	24	28	32	36	40	45	per pair.

Gas. Van, Cart, Bus, and Elliptic Springs in all sizes.

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KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.

"St. Johnstone, Commercial road, Peckham, July 12, 1890.

"DEAR SIR,—I am a poor hand at expressing my feelings on paper, but I should like to thank you for your Lozenges have done wonders for me in relieving my terrible cough. Since I had the operation of 'Tracheotomy' (the same as the late Emperor of Germany, and unlike him, thank God, I am still alive and feeling quite well) performed at the Middlesex Hospital for abduct, or paralysis of the vocal chords, no one could pass thy have had a more violent cough; indeed it was so bad at times that it nearly exhausted me. The mucous also, which was very copious and hard, has been softened, and I have been able to get rid of it without difficulty.—I am, sir, yours truly,

"Mr. Keating." "J. HILL.

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The above speaks for itself. From short enquiry it appears that the benefit from using Keating's Cough Lozenges is undeniable. The operation was a specially severe one, and was performed by the specialist, Dr. H. T. Butlin, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Since the operation the only means of relief is the use of these Lozenges. So successful are they that one affords immediate benefit, although from the nature of the case the throat irritation is intense. Mr Hill kindly allows any reference to be made to him.

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An remedy for Coughs in general, Asthma, Bronchial Affections, Hoarseness, Shortness of Breath, Tightness and Oppression of the Chest, Wheezing, &c., these Pills stand unrivalled. They are the best ever offered to the public, and will speedily remove that sense of oppression and difficulty of breathing which nightly deprives the patient of rest. Let any person give BEECHAM'S COUGH PILLS a trial, and the most violent cough will in a short time be removed.

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"Oh, dear doctor, must my darling die?"
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THE MOST REMARKABLE REMEDY OF THE AGE,
TUDOR WILLIAMS' PATENT BALSAM OF HONEY,"
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When sitting at their tea,
"I wish, just as a friend, you know,
That you would tell to me
How comes it, though your husband earns
A smaller wage than mine,
My house and home so squalid looks,
While yours does fairly shine?
I spend the money carefully,
On penny I don't waste,
And yet I cannot have a home
To suit my husband's taste."
"Well I," said Mrs Jones, "was once
Just placed the same as you,
Until a friend came in one day,
And placed before my view
A Price List from the "Eagle,"
From my mind she took a load,
And I paid a visit with her
To their Stores in Newport-road.
Their Prices quite astonished me,
I could scarce believe my eyes,
As the Goods were so superior,
I was taken by surprise
I can't explain the reason well,
But still, through many a year,
The fact is clear, the "Eagle" Goods
Are the cheapest and the best.
Their Furniture beats all in town,
My statement I can prove;
Since they've given me a happy home,
I've strengthened my husband's love.

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PHOSPHORUS.—Loss of voice, hoarseness, dry cough, consumptive cough, brain fag. One Dozen
PODOPHYLLUM.—Biliousness, bilious headache, acidity, heartburn, constipation.
PULSATILLA.—Measles, indigestion, biliousness, styes, ailments of women, earache. for
RHUS TOX.—Rheumatism, lumbago, erysipelas, ringworm, sprains, chicken-pox.
SPONGIA.—Croup, hollow barking cough, hoarseness, Derbyshire neck. 4/3.
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PASTRY COOK, &c., All sizes and prices.
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WORKING MAN'S HOME FOR £10, comprising—Kitchen: Table, 4 chairs, oilcloth, fender fire irons, 4 engravings, clock, pots, pans, kettles, crockery ware. Bed-room No. 1: Iron bedstead, mattress, Bock bed, dressing table, washstand, chest drawers; 2 chairs, toilet glass, toilet set, fender, towel rail, 2 pictures, blinds, rollers curtains. Bed-room No. 2: Iron bedstead, mattress flock bed, dressing table, 1 chair, toilet glass, blind, &c. Repayable by weekly or monthly instalments. Also drawing and bed room furniture, piano, &c. ROSE AND CO., 77 & 79 Marton-road, Middlesbrough.

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A Sixteen Page Catalogue, post free, on application.

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AND AT WEST HARTLEPOOL.

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Carpets and Linoleums purchased during the Sale made and laid free of charge.

Inspection respectfully solicited.

We are, Madam,
Yours obediently,

WATSON, SONS, DIXON, & CO.

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GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN

CUYUNI MIXTURE AND PILLS

Cured thousands of the most severe cases of Dyspepsia, Debility, Sleeplessness, Nervousness, Pain and Soreness of the Stomach, Bad Legs, all Irregularities of the System, Liver and Kidney Complaints.

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DEATH UNDER THE KOCH TREATMENT.—A young English lady, who was inoculated with Dr. Koch's lymph in Berlin a fortnight ago, has just died at Cannes from blood poisoning.

ACCIDENT TO A MEMBER OF THE CLEVELAND HUNT.—The well-known coursing skipper, Tom Tull, of Saltburn, met with a serious accident while out hunting with the Cleveland Hounds during the present week. He was riding a young horse when he was thrown heavily to the ground and sustained an injury to his right shoulder blade. When down the animal kicked him on the right leg. Fortunately no bones were broken, but it will be some time before Mr Tull is himself again.

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INTERESTING AND AUTHENTIC CASES.

North-Eastern Daily Gazette.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1891.

MR JOHN BURNS AND THE PRESS.

IN his advocacy of the cause of the railway strikers in Scotland Mr John Burns has been guilty of an excess which has brought upon him the severest punishment even this much-abused man has ever experienced. In a speech delivered in Glasgow the other day he made a scandalous attack on the reporters for the Press. In language as offensive as could possibly be conceived he accused them not only of partiality, but of corruptibility. He described them as systematically and wilfully misrepresenting the facts of the strike in the interests of the railway companies and of accepting liberal payments from the companies as the rewards of such daring and odious breaches of professional honour as well as of public duty. The reporters who heard this charge made, after a hurried consultation, decided that self-respect required them to withdraw from the meeting; and afterwards, supported by their professional brethren, they demanded an apology for the insult that had been offered to them. An unsatisfactory reply having been received, the Scottish journalists, who themselves, thanks to the Institute, are now remarkably well organised themselves, decided to cease reporting the railway strikers' meetings. This is a strong course to take, but it is more than justified by the outrageous character of the charge recklessly hurled against the reporters; and it will command the respect and gratitude of journalists in every part of the United Kingdom.

Whatever view Pressmen in England may take of the disastrous railway war in Scotland, and whatever may be their sympathies as between the railway staffs and the railway managers, they will be unanimous in their condemnation of the conduct of Mr Burns. Indeed, the probability is that those of them most in sympathy with the workmen will be most severe in their censure of the calumniator of the profession. They will recognise in it the heaviest blow which could be given to the cause of the strikers. They will feel that nothing more fitted to alienate public sympathy or to create public distrust in the wisdom or even the common sense of the chief advocates of the claims and rights of the railway workers could easily be imagined. They will see that a fatal stroke has been struck against that moral support without which it is vain, and worse than vain, for the overworked engineers and signalmen and other classes of the railway servants to struggle for an improvement of their position. They will hold that Mr John Burns, by his incensable excess—by his outrageous language—has not only grievously diminished his own reputation and authority as a leader of men, but has doomed the cause of the railway servants in Scotland. Certainly no Pressman will believe the charge Mr Burns has brought against his brethren north of the Tweed, or count it other than an insult to the whole profession. The Scottish reporters have a high reputation for efficiency. It is no secret that Mr Gladstone and other prominent and accomplished political speakers consider themselves better reported in Scotland than they even are at Westminster. But professional honour is as highly valued as professional capacity, and professional honour requires from the reporter the strictest impartiality. Many years ago Mr Cobden, recognising the fairness and ability of the reporters, declared that he did not care how much he was criticised or censured in the leading columns of the *Times* so long as full and accurate reports of his speeches were published; and to this day the *Times* is conspicuous for the ample justice it does its political opponents in its news columns. This rule of conduct is as far as possible followed by all newspapers of respectability and influence. Every reporter who knows his work and his duty strives to deal fairly by opponents of the views of the paper he represents. Fidelity to this rule or tradition frequently brings the scrupulous reporter into collision with the sub-editor or guardian of the space for all the departments of the paper, because in his desire to produce an evenly-balanced report he has exceeded the limits assigned him. Every working journalist knows this, and every competent sub-editor strives as far as he can to meet the extra demands which the sometimes literally slavish devotion of the reporter to fair-play imposes upon him.

And just as professional honour requires the reporter to be strictly fair, so it requires him to be scrupulously honest. A man who is not above suspicion in this respect is professionally lost. All high-minded journalists who magnify their profession seek to keep themselves clear as far as they may of "society," lest intimate association with the classes, or the upholders of privilege, whether in the political or municipal, the ecclesiastical or the social sphere, should affect their freedom of action or prejudice their judgment. Similarly, the self-respecting reporter who knows his duty and his responsibility holds himself aloof even from temptations to corruption. He knows that if he were to accept a bribe, on however limited a scale, or for a cause however trivial or innocent, he would do more harm to his reputation and his professional prospects than if, unintentionally—as the result of fatigue or inexperience—he committed a serious error of omission or of commission in the transcription of his notes. He would be shunned by his fellows. He would be treated as one who had disgraced an honourable calling; and he would find the avenues of promotion shut against him. All the best traditions and all the professional surroundings of the Press require from the reporter the strictest incorruptibility; and so well is this imperative law known to the public in these days that the offer of a bribe to even the humblest member of the staff is seldom attempted. We are sure it can be said that the majority of Press men pass through life without ever having let themselves receive the offer of money to cook a report or misrepresent a fact. The people who have dealings with the Press know that any attempt to *buy* a favour would be resented as an unforgivable offence, and the man who charges not merely one individual member of the staff, but a class of reporters in any part of the country—more especially perhaps in Scotland—with corruptibility as well as gross unfairness must arouse against himself a professional prejudice throughout the whole length of the country from Land's End to John o' Groats. Mr John Burns in his passionate folly has not only done an unspeakable disservice to the Scot in railway strikers, but he has incalculably strengthened the public forces arrayed against himself, and has correspondingly decreased his own power as an industrial agitator. More than ever the journalism of the country will regard him with distrust and with dislike; and until he make sufficient amends for the affront he has recklessly offered it, he will deserve the ostracism which will be decreed and maintained against him. Nearly a quarter of a century ago the eccentric Professor Blackie made an unjust charge against the reporters of Edinburgh, and though his offence was slight compared with that offered by Mr John Burns, he was quickly compelled to apologise. Mr Burns, by obstinately refusing the reparation demanded from him, is adding alike to his sin and to his punishment.

WHAT unexpected things happen in public life! A very lengthy report was presented at yesterday's Durham County Council meeting from the Weights and Measures Acts Committee, and it was signed by the chairman, Mr Christopher Furness, the newly-elected member for the Hartlepools. Of course he was not there to move its adoption as a matter of routine. He was where he was least expected to be when that report, in all probability, was drawn up—in the House of Commons. If any rash Radical in the Hartlepools had made such a prophecy a month ago, what a sarcastic smile of defiance would have fluttered over the lips of the then over-confident, but now defeated, so-called Unionists!

It has been repeatedly suggested that Coroners should not hold inquests in public-houses if any other suitable place can be found at the time for the holding of such enquiry. We are glad to observe that the subject has engaged the attention of the Finance Committee of the Durham County Council, for in its report presented at yesterday's meeting a recommendation was made that all the Coroners in the county should be asked not to hold inquests in public-houses when other suitable rooms were available. It made a further recommendation that the standing Joint Committee should be asked to place the County Police Stations at the disposal of the Coroners for the purpose of holding inquests (but not for the reception of dead bodies) without charge in all cases when they can be conveniently so used without interfering with other business. This is a change in the right direction, and one which both jurymen and the public will rightly appreciate.

BY 179 votes against 145 the House of Commons yesterday refused a second reading to Mr E. Robertson's Conspiracy Law Amendment Bill, and thus afforded fresh evidence of unwillingness to deal justly by the industrial classes. Yet the discussion, and even the division, gave promise of a certain victory in the near future. Next Parliament will do what this refuses unless indeed the Government, in their present zeal for the cultivation of the favour of the working classes before the general election comes, should do as they have done with the Railway Hours question, seek to make the reform their own after having voted against it when promoted from the Liberal side of the House. Meanwhile let the electors take note of the absence of the leaders of the Liberal Dissentients from yesterday's discussion, on which Sir William Harcourt justly made some severe comments.

MR GOSCHEN, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, delivered a non-party speech yesterday to the members of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce. The speech was full of interest and of instruction—showing the advantages of a sound and steady development of trade compared with the fictitious benefits of a speculative boom; counselling friendly commercial intercourse with foreign nations; encouraging more especially the wise utilisation of all opportunities for promoting a better trade understanding with the Colonies; and declaring that if the commercial supremacy of Britain is to be maintained, the alliance between capital and labour must be made increasingly friendly and mutually considerate. Nor did he neglect to give a much-needed moral warning. There would not, he said, be cause for congratulation on the national prosperity if it should lead to what he was obliged to chronicle in his Budget last year, namely, a considerable increase in the consumption of alcoholic liquors. Yet he would be surprised if in his next Budget he should be able to chronicle any diminution in the consumption of drink.

THE position in which the education question has been put by the decision of the Committee representing the Wesleyan Conference, and the prospects of legislation during the present session held out by the Government, ought to be regarded by the Liberal party as a summons to action. A great work lies before the Liberal party, and the forward step taken by the Wesleyans tells them that a favourable opportunity of accomplishing that work is at hand. The local Liberal Associations in every district of the country will, if they do their duty or wish to show that they know "the seasons when to take occasion by the hand," forthwith proceed to arouse the public mind on this subject, and engage the masses of the people, who believe in equality and not in privilege, in a great movement for the liberation of the State-aided elementary education of the country from sectarian domination. We trust soon to hear that the Liberal Associations of Tees-side and of the North of England are preparing to lead the way, and that the various Nonconformist organisations are showing themselves ready to encourage and sustain the movement. Some leading Liberal reformers ought to be asked to address public meetings in the North.

IF has lately become extremely difficult to convict Mr Parnell of accuracy of statement. He has more than once said that he mentioned his distrust of and his objection to the Hawarden proposals, at the time they were made, in a letter to Mr Cecil Rhodes, the Premier of Cape Colony. It would not have made Mr Parnell's position much better if he had thus expressed distrust and objection when he said nothing of his feelings at home, and when, indeed, he several times declared his satisfaction with and confidence in the Liberal leader and the Liberal party. But it so happens that Mr Schnadhorst was at Kimberley at the time Mr Rhodes received the letter from Mr Parnell, and he was permitted to read the epistle. It was, of course, a private letter, and Mr Schnadhorst never mentioned its contents to anybody until Mr Parnell issued his manifesto. There is no longer any call for secrecy, and what Mr Schnadhorst unhesitatingly asserts is that in the letter "there was nothing to indicate any hostility on the part of Mr Parnell to Mr Gladstone's supposed suggestions, or any want of belief in their completeness, or any indication of a desire to contest them."

THE railway war in Scotland has already cost the shareholders of the three leading Scottish railways in traffic receipts £127,048, which is thus distributed:—North British, £79,578; Caledonian, £37,279; and Glasgow and South-Western, £10,251. Sir John Burns, in a second circular to the shareholders of the last-named company counselling them against amalgamation with the North British, writes:—"The weakness in the North British management, which was for the time hidden beneath a bold policy of aggression and a somewhat daring expenditure of capital in the promotion of new schemes, has at length shown itself in that company's inability to cope with the crisis which arose at the end of last year; and it is now evident that the dividends of the North British Company were unduly benefited by keeping down their working expenses, which must now necessarily be increased. The result has been that, whereas our own company, managed on a different system, has easily overcome the difficulties which have arisen, the North British is still crippled by the strike. It may safely be predicted that it will be a long time before the North British Company will again show as favourable dividends as it has done during the last two or three years, and it appears to me unwise that we should hand over our line to a company which has to face such serious difficulties."

LONDON NOTES.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE AND EXTRACTS, &c.)

LONDON, Thursday.

The discussion of the Conspiracy Law Amendment Bill, involving as it did so many difficult and technical points of law, was almost of necessity monopolised by lawyers. Mr Gladstone was present during the discussion, evidently taking a deep interest

THE NORTH-EASTERN DAILY GAZETTE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1891. SECOND EDITION

ACCIDENT AT ELECTRICAL WORKS.

A man named Clarke whilst attending to the dynamo of the Electric Light Works, Bath, received a shock which caused him to fall a distance of fifteen feet. He lies in the infirmary suffering from concussion of the brain.

AN ACTOR'S BAD SPECULATION.

In the London Bankruptcy Court yesterday Rutland Barrington, a well-known actor, attended for his first examination. His accounts showed liabilities £2,000; assets £1. He stated he received £25 per week for his part in "The Gondoliers," but Mr D'Oyly Carte received £10 of it in repayment of a loan. He also received £10 for his services in the pantomime book St. James' Theatre at a rent of £300. Colonel North lent him £5,000. Within four months all the money was lost and the theatre let.

A SMART COMPOSITOR CAUGHT.

At the Bow-street Police Court yesterday Harry Saunders, compositor, was charged with attempting to obtain money by false pretences from the proprietors of *People* newspaper. It was alleged that defendant sent a paragraph, signed "Drew," stating that Harry Saunders, of Camden Town, had shot himself. The paragraph was published, and the proprietors then received a note from a person named Norton demanding compensation on behalf of Saunders for the publication of a libellous statement. It was now proved that Saunders wrote the paragraph himself. He was remanded.

THE THREATENED ELECTION PETITION AT WEST HARTLEPOOL.

DOUBTS AFTER DEFEAT.

There was a protracted meeting yesterday afternoon of Sir Wm. Gray's Election Committee at Hartlepool. The sitting lasted until 4.30 and before separating every member pledged to secrecy. We learn, however, that the question of a petition against the return of Mr Furness was under consideration. Various doubts were expressed, but much doubt prevailed as to the wisdom of instituting an enquiry by petition, which it was pointed out necessarily involved a large outlay. Then someone suggested the idea of dealing by indictment, and calling in the aid of the Public Prosecutor. Ultimately the matter was relegated to a small committee, the meeting (inaction adjourned for a week.

AN ALLEGED ROBBERY AND ITS SEQUEL.

In the Queen's Bench yesterday, before Justice Lawrence, the case of Rolt *v.* De Bensaude was heard. Plaintiff and defendant were partners in a leasing business in Gower-street, and in September last defendant, missing a sum of about £90, charged plaintiff with having stolen it. Plaintiff was arrested, but subsequently discharged. He now claimed damages for false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. He detailed the examination at the station which ensued about the alleged robbery in De Bensaude's room, which he thought at first was a practical joke. He was an amateur mesmerist, and he mesmerised the servant at Gower-street in the presence of a detective to discover if possible who stole the money. He was successful.—The defence was that there was reasonable and probable cause for defendant's action.—Defendant, David De Bensaude, detailed the circumstances of the robbery, and in cross-examination said he was the husband of Miss Violet Cameron, and an undischarged bankrupt. He found some of the money that was stolen from Arnold and Company. He could not explain why he did not pay it over to his trustee in bankruptcy. He maintained at the Police Court that he had a think plaintiff was guilty.—The jury returned a verdict for plaintiff, with £150 damages. Judgment was accordingly entered.

STOCKTON CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE.

The usual meeting of this Chamber was held yesterday afternoon in the Stockton Literary Institute, the Mayor Mr R. H. Appleton occupied the chair. Twelve members were elected. The Secretary (Mr Ralph Appleton) read the annual report, descriptive of the proceedings during the year. Among the many important matters on which the Chamber had been engaged during the year were the compulsory slaughter of cattle on importation, the Tithe Rent Charge Recovery and Redemption Bill, Hares (Game Time) Bill, railway rates, and the disposal of roads by County Council. The Marquis of Londonderry had offered £20, under the conditions, for a second competition in the growth of wheats.—The financial statement showed that the income had been £48 6s, and the expenditure £51 2s, showing a deficit of £2 16s, which was more than covered by the subscriptions in arrear.—The following officials were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr J. W. Page-Page, M.P.; Mr Norton; vice-presidents, the Mayor of Stockton, Mr Strothers (Stainsby), and Mr Mark Robinson (Mandale); treasurer, Mr Jasper Baragh, M.P.; hon. secretary, Mr Humphrey; secretary, Mr Ralph Appleton; council, Messrs W. H. Smith (Norton), Chas. Robinson, Joseph Maclean, F. Middleton, and J. W. Earle. Mr Chas. Curry was re-elected annual delegate to the Central Chamber.—A communication was read from Mr Pearce, secretary of the Darlington Chamber, enclosing a letter from Alderman Sir Thomas Dakin, Lord Mayor of London, chairman of the Railway Rates Revision Committee, pointing out that the arrangements made by the Board of Trade were extremely unsatisfactory, especially in regard to conveyance of agricultural produce, and suggesting that as further vigilance would be required on the part of the committee in the interests of farmers, a subscription of £5 from each local Chamber of Agriculture would be acceptable.—The subject was referred to the Council with power to spend such subscription as would in their opinion meet the case.—A vote of thanks having been accorded to the retiring officers for their past services the Chamber separated.

THE SMUGGLED TOBACCO FRAUD.

John Reilly and Jno. Clarke, strangers to the town, were charged at the Middlesbrough Police Court yesterday with obtaining money by false pretences from Thos. Whitehouse. The evidence was that the complainant casually met the defendants, who invited him to drink with them. They then said they had some tobacco to sell very cheaply. They produced a paper bag purporting to contain 50lbs. of tobacco, which they induced him to give 5s for. He thought the parcel from under his coat, pushed it into his hand, and bolted, while Reilly stopped him from following the man. He found afterwards that the parcel contained sawdust.—His Worship: How long have you smoked?—Complainant: Four years.—His Worship: Then you must know when a cannot legitimately buy tobacco for 5s. per lb. I suppose you thought you were near the revenue.—The Chief Constable said the two were arrested trying to sell a worthless brass watch to a friend of the complainant's. One was a citizen of a man recently convicted of similar trick.—Reilly: Guilty, Sir.—Believing that the parcel contained tobacco, did you not think that you were defrauding the Revenue? (Laughter.)—Answer.—Reilly then informed his Worship that he and his mate asked 10s. from the complainant, who refused upon the quality of their tobacco, which, he said, was smuggled, and he expressed a desire to get some of the hard sort. He told his mate to go him up something hard—a brick or something. (Laughter.) His mate made up something, and he gave it to complainant, telling him he would find it hard enough to bite to get home.—His Worship said the defendants were impudent rascals, and he sentenced them to 21 days' hard labour.

THE SCOTCH RAILWAY STRIKE

SIGNS OF COLLAPSE.

The appearance of the strike at Edinburgh yesterday was much in favour of the companies. The best-class drivers have resumed work at Waverley. This defection has created considerable dismay among the strike leaders, as it is said to have been caused by a circular issued by post. Others resumed at St. Margaret's yesterday. The passenger service on both lines is maintained fairly well to time, but there is still considerable difficulty with goods. Mineral traffic is very active, and the export business shows a marked improvement. Large quantities of coal and steel have arrived at North Berwick during the North British men on strike made it impossible for places, all the guards and shunters, drivers, and three firemen applying to the Company for reinstatement. The agent agreed to take them back.—At a meeting of the strike committee in Edinburgh last night a letter was read from Mr Channing, M.P., expressing a hope that the men would press the question of a settlement day on the attention of Parliament and the directors of the companies, and wishing them success in their struggle.

OUTRAGE AT CARLISLE.

It is said that some strikers placed themselves in charge of an embankment near the St. Nicholas Station, Carlisle, and, armed with heavy stones, awaited the return of an engine from the north. The engine came tender first, and the driver and fireman were exposed to the stones with which the men assailed them. The fireman, James Jones, was struck in the face by a stone which had previously picked up on the engine, and which weighed about 2lb. in weight. His face was deeply cut, the wound extending from the brow to his nose, and three of his teeth were knocked out. He was taken on the engine to Longmoor, where temporary provision is made for their accommodation, and he was afterwards removed to Carlisle, where Dr. Ledlard stitched the wound, and ordered his removal to the Infirmary. The outrage has caused considerable indignation in the city.

DETECTIVE REBUKE BY THE PRESS.

The Scottish newspapers have decided not to report any more meetings of the railwaymen on account of the unsatisfactory nature of the reports of the executive to their demand for a publication of the statements by Mr John Burns to reporters.

Mr Willis's Hats, 1/- Ties, Gloves, Shirts. "The Great White Hat," 25, Newport-rd.—ADVT.

ANOTHER CURE.—SHORTNESS OF BREATH (Asthma).—"I have used Dr Locock's PULMONIC WAFERS for upwards of 35 years, and I have derived more benefit from any other medicine.—J. Kemp, Local Watering, Essex." To Bronchials, Asthma, Influenza, Coughs, Colds, Rheumatism, and all Throat and Nervous Complaints, they give instant relief, a rapid cure, and taste pleasantly. Sold by all Chemists at 1½d, 2s 9d, 4s 6d, and 11s per box.—Ga

THE TERRIBLE COLLIERY EXPLOSION IN AMERICA.

HARROWING DETAILS.

The terribly fatal explosion at the Latrobe Colliery, Pennsylvania, has caused the greatest excitement throughout the neighbouring district, and large numbers of miners are arriving from all parts to offer help. One hundred and seven bodies were recovered yesterday from the Mammoth shaft, and it is believed that 17 more are still in the pit. Only 22 of those brought to the surface have been identified, all the others being mutilated beyond recognition. There was no sleep in Mammoth last night, every habitation having been converted into a house of mourning. The cause of the explosion has not yet been discovered, but the disaster is attributed to

AN ACCUMULATION OF FIRE DAMP,

which, however, has never heretofore been known to exist in the mine to any appreciable extent. Hundreds of safety gauge lamps which were provided by the company for the use of the miners have never been used, being considered unnecessary. The men were in the habit of using instead small open flame lamps which they wore in their hats. It seems that the miners had been sent down to work early in the morning, after the "fire toss," Sneath, had handed in to General Superintendent Lynch the usual certificate guaranteeing the safety of the mine. It was the duty of the former to go to the face of each working, and indicate by a chalk mark that he had been there. Whether this was done yesterday is unknown, as the mangled body of Sneath lies in the improvised morgue. No sound or shock accompanied the catastrophe, but only

A THIN CLOUD OF DUST AND SMOKE,

which rose up from the pit's mouth. There was no sound, no shock, nothing to show that anything was wrong below, except this cloud, and the workmen above did not dream of the horror it heralded. But they soon learned its significance, and the old tale of mining disasters was then retold. Superintendent Keighley was on the spot at the time of the explosion, and at once called for volunteers, with whom he descended the shaft. A horrible picture met their eyes. Cars, mules, and the bodies of men were piled in a compact mass against the ribs or walls of coal. There was not a living being in all this wreckage. This obstruction having with difficulty been removed, the party then encountered a second series of horrors. The first object they discovered was a boot, containing the leg of a man. Further on, they found a head, and after walking a little distance, came to a human trunk. Working their way further along, they found numbers of bodies strewn along the gangway. One unfortunate had

MET HIS DEATH WHILE ON HIS KNEES IN PRAYER,

his hands clasped and his eyes uplifted, this being the position in which his body was found. Bodies were brought up every few minutes. The crowd simply fell back to allow the men carrying the stretchers to pass. Every corpse was covered, and no one ventured to enquire the names of those borne by. The wailing of the women was dreadful. Father Samling circulated among them, doing all he could to comfort them with words of sympathy. Mr Keighley is sorely distressed, having been present at three great fatalities in this region, of which yesterday's was the most disastrous. He was mine inspector at Dunbar at the time of the horrible accident there; then superintendent at Youngstown, at the time of an explosion in which many were killed and injured. On being questioned, he said that

NO ONE KNEW THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT,

nor would it ever be known with certainty. It is estimated that sixty wives and families have been left entirely destitute. The mines have not been running full time since the present duluess began in the coke trade, and many of these people are thus left without a cent. Mr Wise has already addressed a letter to the miners and cokers of the region appealing for aid. The Mammoth plant embraces 509 ovens, being one of the largest plants in the region. It is situated near the United Works, where an explosion recently destroyed an entire shaft.

MINE FATALITY IN MISSOURI.

The roof of a chamber in a mine at Amoret, Missouri, fell in yesterday upon a number of men. Two were killed outright, and very small hopes are entertained of saving five others, who were buried beneath the *debris*, and have not yet been extricated.

MILLIONAIRES FIGHT IN A BANK.

AN AMERICAN SCANDAL.

Mr Mackay, the millionaire, was in the Nevada Bank, at San Francisco, on Tuesday, when he was knocked down by another millionaire, who was once his broker and confidential agent, and is an Englishman named C. W. Bonynge. It is supposed that the latter had played a false deal. The men were separated before pistols were drawn, but the affray is likely to lead to further trouble. It is now said that the cause of the assault was a social matter. The *Evening Sun* publishes a long story about the Mackay fight. It says that ladies of both families have been social rivals in Europe for several years. Both of them have been persecuted by articles in the newspapers for which each blamed the other. Bonynge's daughter, Miss Daniels Bonynge, was engaged to the late Lord Castlerose, and the match is stated to have been broken off through announcing by an anonymous letter that the lady's father was a convict.

THE CLEVELAND IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY.

(To the Editor of the North-Eastern Daily Gazette.)

SIR,—I write these lines for the purpose of urging the thoughful consideration of the following facts by those acting as responsible advisers to the Cleveland ironstone miners and the owners or lessees of the mines:—First, the enormous loss to the whole community which results from a rupture of friendly relations, if same eventuate in a strike or lock-out. Second, the present is a crucial time in the history of the Cleveland ironstone trade; the question whether the natural resources of the district are to be utilised for producing steel seems to be a question of solution, and it would be sorry encouragement to the capitalists who are spending so much to forward its successful conclusion if they are hampered by unreasonable treatment on the part of labour in the very field in which cheapness is so great an incentive to persevere with the endeavour to create for Cleveland a native steel trade. Third, the state of the American and continental iron trades. We were going to supply Africa and China with their wants when these countries were buyers. It looks, however, as though there would be some very keen competition, and we should be prepared to meet it by English capital and labour presenting a united front, the result of mutual forbearance and confidence. Knowing the publicity afforded by your columns amongst those chiefly interested, I trust you will be able to find space for these few remarks.—Yours faithfully,

January 29th, 1891. CLEVELAND BASIC.

WESLEYANS DECIDE FOR FREE EDUCATION.

At the Centenary Hall, London, yesterday, the committee appointed by the Wesleyan Conference to report upon the question of elementary education decided by a considerable majority to support the policy of extending the Board schools everywhere in England, the unsectarian teaching of the Bible to be included in the curriculum. It was also resolved that all modifications of the national policy respecting elementary education should be made, in view of the ultimate establishment of a complete system of national schools under adequate and representative public management. It was further resolved that the committee is prepared to accept any reasonable proposals of free education, but insists that all schools freed, by the aid of public grants, must be so far placed under public management as to secure the abolition of tests in schools and to prevent their misuse for sectarian purposes. The committee subsequently discussed resolutions by Rev. Dr. Rigg and Rev. Dr. Walker. The first of these referred to the "Conscience" Clause, which was declared to be inoperative.—The Rev. J. Ernest Clapham said there was a great deal of clerical and landlord oppression, and there was reason to believe that the Conscience Clause was practically a dead letter. Nothing would meet the difficulty but to admit public bodies to management of these schools. It was not so much an open as a silent and roundabout oppression. He instanced a case where respectable people were elected to clerical dist boys and girls who, attending the week-day school, also attended the Church Sunday School. It was being broadly asserted in many country parishes that Dissent was schism, and that schism was sin. In his judgment, the solution of the difficulty lay in the provision of a national system of unsectarian education, and yet at the same time Christian.—Rev P J. Cocking, of Middlesbrough, also spoke, and the resolution was adopted.—Another resolution which was discussed, but subsequently withdrawn, was condemnatory of the using of the Board School premises by Church school managers for the purposes of the Act of 1870. Dr. Walker's resolutions, which were adopted, were:—"1. That no scheme of free or assisted education can be acceptable to Wesleyan Methodists which will place the schools of Protestant Nonconformists at a disadvantage in comparison with those of the Church of England or of the Roman Catholic." "2. That no measure will be satisfactory to Wesleyan Methodists which provides for the payment from the consolidated fund of a sum in lieu of school fees, while it makes no provision for the due representation of the public on the committee of management."

HEAVY FAILURE IN BRADFORD.

£70,000 LIABILITIES.

A circular has been issued calling a private meeting of the creditors of Messrs C. F. Taylor and Company, manufacturers, Baildon, near Bradford, who have suspended payment. The liabilities are put down at £70,000, and the assets are estimated at £40,000. Only about £5,000 is owing to trade creditors, there being a bank overdraft of £40,000.

A BOY SACRIFICED BY INDIANS.

THE LUCK CHARM.

A shocking discovery is described by the *Edmonton Bulletin*, published in Alberta, the westernmost of our North-West territories. It seems that an Indian named Bluehora went off last June on a hunting expedition to the Beaver Hills, near Fort Saskatchewan, taking with him his son, eight years old. One day the boy was sent to the camp by his father, but did not arrive there, and nothing was heard of him. His skeleton has at last been found suspended between two trees, the arms stretched out, and one wrist being tied to each tree by a rope. It is supposed that the boy had been caught by some Indians in the locality and offered up as a sacrifice to secure good luck in hunting, as they are in the habit of exposing pieces of cloth or trinkets to obtain supernatural favour. A sentence from the "Histoire de la Nouvelle France," by the Jesuit Father Charlevoix, shows that this custom prevailed among the Indians met with by the early French explorers in Lower Canada. "Strings of wampum, tobacco, ears of corn, the skins and often the whole carcasses of animals, are seen along difficult or dangerous roads, or rocks, and on the shores of rapids, as so many offerings to the presiding spirit of the locality. Of animals, dogs are the most common victims; they are often suspended alive upon trees by the hinder feet, where they are left to die in a state of madness."

FREE OR ASSISTED EDUCATION.

Lord Derby distributed the prizes last night to the students of the Bury Athenæum. Free education he considered an absurd title. To speak of assisted education was more accurate. He did not pretend to solve the problem, but would make one or two suggestions. First, we should be careful not unnecessarily to disturb the compromise which was come to in 1870. In the next place, he did not see why parents, of whom three out of four were quite able to pay something, should be relieved of all obligation to help in giving instruction to their children. (Hear, hear.) The State did not undertake to feed and cloth all children gratuitously, though clothes and food were quite as necessary as reading and writing. He thought we ought not to tell parents, as a body, that they had nothing to do with the teaching of their children, but that that is the business of the community as a whole, and not theirs. The question was one of practical administration. He had no doubt that before long it would be clearly argued, and he only hoped it would be dealt with on its own merits, and not treated as the battlefield of party. (Loud applause.)

A CITY TREASURER ATTACKED BY MASKED BURGLARS.

A terrible tragedy took place in Lancaster, Ontario, early on Tuesday morning, when Mr Hislop, the City Treasurer, was murdered, while his wife and daughter were fiendishly assaulted by masked burglars. It appears that Mr Hislop was awakened about two o'clock in the morning by his wife, who believed she heard a noise in the hall outside the bed-room door. He rose and went to the door, which he opened. As he did so two men sprang upon him, but although he was in his night clothes, Mr Hislop made a desperate struggle. While he and the ruffians were rolling over upon the floor of the hall Mrs Hislop screamed for help, but no one seems to have heard the alarm, which was quickly hushed up by the ruffians, who then had despoiled of Mr Hislop. The City Treasurer was getting the best of the fight, being a big-framed man in his time and an athlete, when one of the burglars stabbed him. The men then gave their attention to Mrs Hislop and her daughter, whom they treated in a most outrageous manner. They were then tied to their beds, and the burglars proceeded to rifle the house. During the struggle with Miss Hislop she managed to tear off the mask of one of the men, and says that she can identify her assailant. The burglars thought they would find a large sum of money in the house. In this they failed, but they took everything of value. They acted very coolly, and made no attempt to leave the house until towards daylight. They were seen by several persons, who did not know they were burglars, and were observed driving towards Hamilton in a carriage in which they had driven to the scene. Miss Hislop finally freed herself, and gave the alarm, but the ruffians had a long start.

THE LAW OF INTIMIDATION.

In the House of Commons yesterday Mr Robertson moved the second reading of the Conspiracy Law Amendment Bill, and he explained that its object was to amend the Act of 1875 in two points—firstly, in laying down the general principle that, subject to specified exceptions, no combination should be treated as criminal, unless it attempted an object in itself criminal; secondly, in amending the Act of 1775 in regard to the word intimidation. Any conspiracy made punishable by special legislation should be admitted as an exception to the present legislation. How, he asked, could hon. gentlemen opposite justify the distinction now maintained between persons and other subjects of Her Majesty? and could they point to any substantial difference between the principles he now laid down and those reported by the Commission of 1879, and submitted to the House by Sir John Holker in 1880? As to intimidation, he proposed to limit it to cases in which the justices would bind over persons to keep the peace. (Opposition cheers.) This would prevent such strange decisions as they had just heard from Mr Recorder Bompas, that for trades union officers to order men to leave work was to intimidate them. (Hear, hear.) And there was also the decision of Mr Digby Seymour. In the name of the artisans of England, Scotland, and Wales, he called on the House to pass the second reading of the Bill, leaving the details to be threshed out in Committee.—Mr Renwick, speaking for a large number of people whose legislation would, he feared, been challenged in court, asked leave to second the motion. The recent decisions of the Recorder of Plymouth and of the County Court Judge of Newcastle demonstrated most clearly the vagueness of the law affecting trade unionism, and the dangerous consequences of that vagueness. The hon. gentleman member traced the steps by which trades unionism, from being in itself illegal, had come to be recognised by the law, and pointed out that if the recent decisions of Mr Bompas and Judge Seymour were correct workmen had for years past been acting in relying on the rights granted to them, as they believed, by the Act of 1875. He also expressed his firm conviction that if the law, as laid down by the Plymouth Recorder, was correct there were very few employers of labour in the country who were not open to the charge which was brought against the defendants in that case. (Cheers.) After going at some length into the facts of the Plymouth case he insisted that, considering its vagueness, and the fact that it was calculated to act most injuriously upon the industrial classes of the country, the time had come for an alteration of the law. Therefore he hoped that the Government would see their way to accepting the second reading of a Bill which, possibly, did not cover the whole case, but which was at least a stepping stone in the right direction.—Mr Garvey seconded the motion, and it was then moved that the Bill be read a second time on this day six months, and that the Bill would modify the severity of the law. It would, in fact, benefit no one. He denied the justice of the contention that because one man might lawfully do a certain thing they men might also lawfully do it. It would be a bad day for one man to do a slander another, but a most serious thing for fifty men to do so.—Mr Charles Darling seconded the rejection. Sir William Harcourt commented upon the length of the speeches of the opponents of the measure.—("Opposition cheers")—and demanded to know what course the Government intended to take on this question, vitally important as it was to the masses of the people of the country. One great object of this Bill was to substitute the law of conspiracy for the much-abused and dangerous and vague common law of conspiracy. Referring to the judgment of Mr Bompas, which he regarded as wrong on all points, he submitted that it could never have been given but for the action of the House of Lords in mutilating the 1875 Act.—The Solicitor-General for England denied that the subject was so important as had been suggested, and justified the recommendation of the Government that the Bill be not read a second time. The only complaint by trades unions against the Act of 1876 arose because of recent decisions. For fifteen years the law had generally been commended, and these particular decisions were now under review in higher courts. The question of amending the law of 1875 should await the pending appeals. He pointed out that an appeal was pending against the judgment of the Recorder of Plymouth (Mr Bompas), and that hitherto trades unions had not been accused of conspiracy in the operation of the existing law of conspiracy.—On a division the motion for second reading was negatived by 143 votes against 179; majority against, 36.

OPENING HIS DAVY LAMP IN THE PIT.—The Durham Bench yesterday fined a boy named Jas. Peacock 5s for opening his safety lamp with a nail in Littlehurn Pit, which is under the jurisdiction of one of the special rules of the colliery. —The prosecutor applied for several summonses against other people for a similar offence, which were granted.

COLMAN'S SINAPISM.—The Improved Mustard Plaster, three for seven stamps. All chemists and grocers. COLMAN'S, 103, Cannon-street, London.—ADVT.

KEEP THE DOCTOR OFF.—Buy R. A. Watson's Hamlys' Wool Drawers, Vests, and Cardigan Jackets, cheapest and best. Stockton or South Bank.—ADVT.

IN A GARDEN.

Miss Mehitable's flower garden was the pride and delight of her soul. Next to her own independent sisterhood she prized that sacred plot of ground, cared for and tended by her own hands.

To be sure, the spading and digging and all the heavier work were done by a son of Erin, a broad-faced, good-natured fellow, who answered to the euphonious name of Barney Flanagan, but all the weeding and transplanting and training of her flowers was performed by Miss Mehitable herself.

It was in truth a delightful garden. The square, old-fashioned brick house, with its perpetually closed blind, stood well back from the street, and all the space in front of it was devoted to flowers. As Nature abhors a vacuum, so Miss Mehitable abhorred a great expanse of green lawn.

"I'll have none of it!" she would declare, with emphasis. "It's a wicked waste of ground, and I won't have it. Them that fancies a big yard full o' clipped-off grass can have it and enjoy it. I'll have flowers in mine."

It will be seen at once that Miss Mehitable was rather unconventional. Little Hitty Stetson, her niece and namesake, thought so—all the neighbours thought so.

It was an eminently aristocratic avenue upon which Miss Mehitable lived—in fact, the avenue of the pretty college town; but if Miss Mehitable saw fit to carry a pan of gooseberries up the street to the professor's house, clad in an immense sunbonnet and a gown conspicuous for the brevity of its skirt—why, she did so; and, indeed, neither she nor her gooseberries were any the less welcome for this fact.

One night, when Hitty had been installed in the great old-fashioned "spare room" a week or two, and was just nicely settling herself to sleep the sleep of the innocent, Miss Mehitable stalked in like a ghost, candle in hand, her little close-fitting night-cap and scanty drapery making her appear unnaturally tall.

Hitty sat up in bed and looked at her with twinkling eyes.

"For pity's sake, Aunt Mehitable, what is it?" for the expression on Miss Mehitable's face was truly alarming.

"It's them boys," she burst forth, explosively—"them peaky college boys after my flowers again! Just wait until to-morrow; I'll show 'em if there ain't no law in this town! The rascals, to come sneakin' round my garden this time o' night stealin' my flowers. I wish Barney was here—he'd fix 'em!"

Hitty slipped out of bed and into her long, dark dressing gown. She thrust her pretty bare feet into her slippers.

"Let's catch them, auntie! We can do it, and it will be a good lesson for them. Come on!"

"Pity's sake, child, I ain' a-goin' to reak myself in that damp garden, nabbin' thieves—neither a yow!"

"Yes, I am, though!" Miss Hitty responded saucily, with a reassuring smile. "I tell you what —you run over through the back yard gate and get Barney, and I'll hold at least one of them till you get back. We'll teach them a lesson they won't forget very soon."

She was slipping down the stairs, looking back at the spectral figure above her.

"Put on something quick, auntie, and run for Barney while I hold them!" and she slipped noiselessly out of the side door and out into the soft darkness.

Miss Mehitable hurriedly donned a fantastic costume and stole out of the back door in search of Barney.

"I'll learn 'em!" she muttered to herself. "I'll learn 'em to come stealin' my flowers this way!"

Hitty stood listening on the side piazza. She could hear the muffled voices and half-smothered laughter of the marauders. They were down near the gate among the roses. She stole along like a shadow among the dark shrubs and in the deep shade of the trees, scarcely daring to breathe, nor her eyes dreaming with delight at what she was going to do, her cheeks flushed hotly with excitement.

"Say, Clark," she heard someone say in a voice breathless with stifled laughter, "I'm going to give these roses to the parson. He's a jolly good fellow for the parson is, even if he is so goody-goody, and I'm fond of him; but won't it be a joke to surprise him with stolen roses to-morrow, when he graduates! I know just how he'll colour up and look embarrassed and thank me for 'em, in that proper way of his—but all the time they'll be appropriated flowers. Won't that be rich, Clark? I'm" he was going to say, but stopped short in astonishment. Two strong little hands held his arms pinioned firmly at his sides—a dark form stood close behind him.

He dropped the roses.

"That you, Clark? Come, stop your nonsense."

But it was not Clark. That young gentleman was speeding down the street as fast as his long legs could carry him.

"Jove! poor Tom's in for it this time," he thought, as he lessened the distance between himself and his boarding-place. "Wonder if it's the old maid herself that's got him!"

He stopped for breath and leaned against a gate post to laugh. The town clock struck eleven as he stood there. Then he went on home, keeping an eye out for the night watchman. His hands were full of Miss Mehitable's flowers.

Meanwhile Hitty clung to her prisoner. When he realised that he was fairly caught he began to beg for mercy. But Hitty held fast to her prey. She even shook him with all the violence her strength was capable of.

"Aren't you ashamed of yourself, sir, to come stealing my aunt's flowers and then add insult to injury by ridiculing her?"

Another shake. In spite of himself the culprit laughed.

"The girl thinks I can't get away," he thought, with a proud consciousness of his muscle development in the college gymnasium.

It was not unpleasant to be held there in the soft, sure clutches by those strong little hands, to smell the faint, sweet scent of violet perfume on her gown, and feel this unseen girl's magnetic presence. He was in no hurry to get away, although he pretended to be in the greatest fright.

When he laughed Hitty laughed too—her fresh, ringing laughter was contagious though. She could not help it, the affair was so ridiculous. Then she shook him again, to atone for her lack of severity.

"You're a nice colleg'an, aren't you?" she went on, sarcastically, "to come stealing flowers in this way. I wonder if you are going to graduate to-morrow, you?"

It was so dark that they could not see each other's faces, though so near.

"Yes'm," he replied, feigning to make another struggle for liberty. "And I wanted the roses for the parson—he's to graduate, too. He's an awfully nice fellow, the parson is—a regular trump!"

This would never do. They were growing almost friendly. Hitty raised her voice and called out—

"Auntie! Barney!"

Two dark forms were hurrying down the walk. Barney was jabbering excitedly, and Miss Mehitable was fluttering with nervousness.

"I've got him, auntie," the girl called. "Here, Barney—"

But in an instant she found herself standing alone with empty hands, her cheeks tingling and burning with an audacious kiss, her first impulse to fly after the offender, her next to run away for a good cry.

"Oh, he's gone, Aunt Mehitable—he's gone—he's got away! Oh, why didn't you come sooner? Oh, dear—oh, dear!"

"Bedad. thin, the snakin' thafe, I'll be after ketchin' him, I will!" And off Barney started in hot pursuit.

"Come into the house, child!" her aunt commanded. "We're scared 'em anyway—come in and go to bed."

Hitty meekly followed her aunt into the house. When she faced herself in the mirror in her room she saw a bright face, flushed and tremulous with excitement, and a pair of indignant dark eyes; but there was something suspiciously like a smile about her full red lips.

The ribbon which had tied her hair was gone, and all her unruly curls tumbled about her neck and shoulders. It was a pretty picture the girl cast that night in the antiquated gold-framed mirror.

The next morning Barney Flanagan presented himself and dutifully pulled his forelock.

"Thrue it is, mum," he said to Miss Mehitable as she stood in the wide hall surveying him; "divil a thief is there's the shlipperiest spalpeen I ever saw! Dade, he slipped right through me fingers, so to shpake! I niver saw the loike!"

Three years slipped away. Again Miss Mehitable stood and dusted and set in company order the great, old-fashioned spare room. She went about it with characteristic energy, shaking up the bed clothes and smoothing imaginary wrinkles out of pillowslips and counterpane, draping the antique oval mirror with fresh tarleton, and setting pitchers of flowers here and there about the room—on the window-sill, upon the mantelpiece, and on the high, old-fashioned bureau with its glistening glass knobs.

Miss Mehitable was in quite a feminine flutter of pleasant excitement, for Hitty and her husband were coming to-night for a few weeks of their honeymoon.

Miss Mehitable's expressive lip curled slightly as she went about her work.

"Thank Heaven, 'tain't me," she ejaculated with customary emphasis. "Land! how green I should feel takin' a weddin' tour!"

But when Hitty and her husband arrived they found a hearty welcome in the spinster's heart and home.

"Hitty's made a good choice, I guess," Miss Mehitable was thinking as she poured the tea and passed around the egg-shell china cups. "He looks like a good, square, honest fellow, anyway," and forthwith the young husband was installed in a warm corner in Miss Mehitable's big, roomy heart.

Just as the dusk came creeping through the quaint old garden, filled to overflowing with flowers in sweet profusion, and nothing broke the Sabbath-like stillness of the hour save the distant shouts of children playing far down the long avenue, and the sleepy twitter of nestling birds in the trees above, Hitty and her husband walked down among the roses near the gate, hand in hand, like happy children, or like the happy lovers they were. Hitty was laughing as they strayed about the winding paths.

"And so it was really you, Tom, dear, who stole Aunt Hitty's rosary that night? Dear, dear! how I did hold on to you! It seemed as though Barney would never come."

She laughed—that rippling spontaneous laugh of hers, with the old girlish ring in it.

"How little I thought that night, Hitty, dear, that I was kissing my future wife. How strangely it has all come about!"

"Yes," Hitty answered, "it's quite romantic, isn't it, Tom? And wasn't it lovely to have the parson marry us? And"—a moment later—"you stole my hair ribbon, too, besides doing that other dreadful thing. Oh, Tom, what an awful man I'm married to!"

"If I were an author," Tom said, impressively, "if I were an author, Hitty, I'd write a story all about it."

Hitty looked up admiringly.

"You're smart enough to, dear old Tom," she said, with wifely confidence, "oh, do try."

But, though Hitty's faith was strong, and Tom was willing, I have had to write the story myself, after all.

PROPOSED ELECTORAL REGISTRATION AMENDMENT.

Two Bills are issued with the Parliamentary papers this morning, dealing with the subject of electoral registration. The first is an Electoral Registration Acceleration Bill, which has been prepared by Mr Ritchie, Sir Richard Webster, and Mr Long, to accelerate the proceedings for the registration of electors in England and Wales, and to alter certain dates connected therewith. Under the Registration of Electors Acts, the Local Government registers of electors are in each year after 1891 required to be completed on or before the 28th October, and come into operation on the 1st November following. Under those Acts the lists of persons entitled to be entered respectively in the Parliamentary register of electors and in the Local Government register of electors are required to be made out and revised together, and the time between the last day for the revision of the lists and the 28th October is too short to allow in many cases of due completion of the register. The Bill therefore proposes to accelerate the preparation of lists, and for that purpose to alter dates of qualification and of registration proceedings. In consequence of the acceleration of dates, the Bill proposes to make the Parliamentary register come into operation on the 1st November instead of the 1st January. The Bill does not propose in any way to alter the franchise. The second Bill is an Electors' Qualification and Registration Bill, brought in by Mr Stansfeld, Mr Childers, and Mr Charles Russell to amend the law with respect to qualification and registration of electors at Parliamentary, municipal, and County Council elections in England and Wales. It seeks to abolish the disqualification attached to payment of rates and taxes, and to establish that the period of qualification for Parliamentary electors shall in all cases be three months immediately preceding the 25th of June. These provisions are to apply equally to burgesses and county electors. It also provides that successive occupation by an occupation voter of premises of the same or different qualifying character shall qualify such voter to vote at a Parliamentary election, as if he had occupied one of such premises during the whole period of qualification; and that a person shall not be entitled to vote at Parliamentary elections in more than one electoral area, or to vote in different electoral areas during the same electoral year. There are also provisions for the appointment of officers, called registration superintendents, in counties and county boroughs, and of a registration assistant to the overseers in parishes. Provisions for registration are altered to meet the proposals in the first part of the Bill, and there are proposals for the better arrangement of lists and registers in boroughs.

THE WRONG HUSBAND.

Perhaps the most curious case of mistaken identity that ever occurred was one which the Parliament of Toulouse was called upon to decide in the middle of the sixteenth century.

A married man, by name Martin Guerre, left his wife for eight years. Shortly after his departure, the probable duration of which was well known, an adventurer bethought him that it would be a very pleasant thing to enjoy the dead man's property. The likeness which this Arnauld Dutelle bore to Guerre was very extraordinary, so much so that the wife of the latter received him without a doubt, and other members of his family were equally deceived.

Everything went on smoothly, children were born to Madame Guerre and the man whom she supposed to be her husband, and there was no suspicion that he was anything but what he pretended to be.

Eventually, however, a dispute arose as to his identity. The matter was brought before the Parliament of Toulouse, and excited considerable interest. Hundreds of witnesses were brought up. Large numbers refused to express any opinion on the matter, but fifty were positive that Dutelle was the wrong man, while an equal number were as sure that he was not.

In the middle of all the wrangling the real Martin Guerre put in an appearance, and one would have thought that there the matter would have ended. Nothing of the kind, however. The usurper stuck stoutly to his guns, and declared that the man whose place he had assumed was a brazen-faced impostor. So confidently did he urge his suit that he gained a number of partisans, and the real Guerre had no little difficulty in establishing his case and claiming his wife and property. There does not seem to be any record of the fate of Dutelle beyond the fact that several people refused to be persuaded that he was an impostor, and to their dying day considered him a deeply injured man.

CURIOUS SPORTING MATCHES.

The *Field* has a good deal to say about sporting matches, a topic which has been revived for the time by the match which the Earls of Lonsdale and Shrewsbury have lately made. Outside matches on the turf (says the writer), the sportsmen of a bygone time took infinite pleasure in backing themselves to perform some feat against a rival competitor or against time; and over since William Kemp—said to have been the original of Dogberry in "Much Ado about Nothing"—danced a morris from London to Northwich in nine days for a wager, there has been a long series of more or less remarkable feats.

"JERUSALEM" WHALLEY.

Lord Cloncurry, the writing of Mr Whalley—who, to win a bet of several thousands of pounds, walked to Jerusalem at the close of the last century, played at fives against the walls of the Holy City, and returned within twelve months—said he was careless of his life and limbs whenever a wager was involved. Right well did "Jerusalem" Whalley, as he came to be called, deserve the character given him; for, after a succession of foolish feats, he leaped down from a first-floor window in Dublin on to the top of a hackney coach, and thereby rendered himself a cripple for the remainder of his days. Equally regardless of cons

CHIPS.

Half a million clerks are employed in London.

Woodfibre pipes are now being extensively used for underground telephone work in America.

The saltest body of water in the world is the Lake of Urumia, in Persia. The salt in the water analyses 22 per cent., which is greater than that of the Dead Sea.

So serious has the plague of rabbits become in New Zealand that a mercantile company connected with that country is paying 7s 6d apiece for steats delivered, alive and in good condition, to certain agents in England.

Professor Blackie, who was asked to attend the Newcastle and Tyneside Burns Club dinner, has written saying that he thinks it time "for an old fellow of eighty-three to be giving up his vagabondish habits."

The Prince de Rohan, who comes of a very eccentric family, made a bet of 500 francs that he would drive four horses up and down the flight of steps leading to the city set on a hill which we call Monaco, and he won his wager with four horses picked off the rank, where the *facres* stand for hire, which he had never seen before.

Ten women in Paris and the French provinces have been authorised by the Prefect of Police to wear full masculine costume. Among them are a lady artist, a female house painter and decorator, the mannish-looking directress of a printing office, and several others, who have obtained certificates to show that they ought to discard the attire of their own sex for that of the strong and sterner one.

In the *Sprig of Shillelagh* (the paper of the 27th Inniskillings) for January appears the following astounding information:—"My three servants took turns in going out on Sundays. I was much astonished three different Sundays to see the underhousemaid each time with a different young man. I asked the cook if she could tell me about it. 'Lor! yes, marm,' she replied; 'me and Mary have got our sweethearts, but Ellen's not got one, so she pays a shilling every Sunday to walk with a young man, as we likes a man to go with us. Some pays more.'"

Fair woman's "extreme latest" is fortune-telling, not by palmistry, but rather by a study of the feet. Not that she exposes her uncovered foot to the eyes of the necromancer, or submits to his scrutiny in the flesh, but, instead, a plaster cast is taken of the right foot, and from its outlines, creases, and form one wise in the esthetics of foot lore reveals to her the mystery of the future, and the peculiarities of her own character. Beware of the woman with a broad-soled, flat-heeled foot, for she has a mean, grasping disposition. Beware of the girl with the high instep, for she has a nervous, passionate nature. Have a care concerning a well-formed, neat little ankle, for it indicates self-consciousness and vanity.

The peoples indigenous to the soil of China eat almost every living thing which comes in their way—dogs, cats, hawks, owls, eagles, and storks are regular marketable commodities; and in default of these they do not object to a dish of mice or rats or snakes. All varieties of reptiles and large insects, such as cockroaches, are employed as food or medicine. Their choicest dish, however, is young dogs' flesh. Young, plump, and tender pups which have been reared on rice food invariably fetch good prices at the market stalls, where a supply is always to be found. A dish of puppies prepared by a skilled cook (and there are many excellent cooks in China) is esteemed a dish fit for the gods. At every grand banquet it makes its appearance as a hash or stew.

At Warsenstein, in Germany, there is, perhaps, one of the most curiously original collections of books in the world. It is really a botanical collection. Outwardly, each volume presents the appearance of a block of wood, and that is what it actually is; but a minute examination reveals the fact that it is also a complete history of the particular tree which it represents. At the back of the book the bark has been removed from a space which allows the scientific and the common name of the tree to be placed as a title for the book. One side is formed from the split wood of the tree, showing its grain and natural fracture; the other side shows the wood when worked smooth and varnished. One end shows the grain as left by the saw, and the other the finely polished wood. On opening the book it is found to contain the fruit, seeds, leaves, and other products of the tree, the moss which usually grows upon its trunk, and the insects which feed upon the different parts of the tree. These are supplemented by a well-printed full descript on of the tree. In fact, everything which has a bearing upon that particular tree secures a place in this collection.

In the course of an examination in grammar a Surrey inspector was the privileged recipient of some most edifying (or startling) information. The parents of the children were mostly agricultural labourers. The examiner was dealing with grammatical "diminutives," and particularly with the force of the suffix *kin—e.g.*, mannikin, a little man; &c. On his asking the lads to give him a few examples of such "diminutives," a number of eager hands was soon raised. The gentleman, much gratified at such a ready response to his question, pointed to one of the lads for an answer. "Lambkin, a little lamb," was the reply. "Very good indeed," said the inspector; and he pointed to another lad. "Tomkin, a little Tom," was the answer. The gentleman somewhat demurred at this, but finally accepted it. He then pointed to a further lad. "Buskin, a little 'bus!" was the response. The inspector's countenance fell. "Now, my lads," he pleaded, "do take time to think before you speak. The last answer was altogether wrong." And he pointed to a little yokel behind, who, in his desperate eagerness to catch the inspector's eye, had ventured to half mount upon the form. "Well, you, my lad?" said the inspector, pointing at last to this young hopeful. "Pumpkin, sir, a little pump!"

Every country has certain Christmas customs. England and Germany have their Christmas trees for the delight of the young. Paris has the boulevards filled with *boutiques* full of *étrennes* for the New Year. Italy has its Presepi, which is almost a religious ceremony. By Presepio is meant the stable and *entourage* where Christ was born. Every Italian child seeks to have one in her house, however humble, on Christmas night; from the far-off mountain villages almost covered with snow to the houses of the rich the same scene is represented. In every house may be seen the smiling faces of little children all intent on building up the Presepio or *crèche* to do honour to the Holy Child. Everything serves—stones, pieces of rock, sand, earth, branches of trees, &c.—to make up the country scene. Any glasses which may have been broken during the year are religiously preserved to make lakes and rivers. The figures of the shepherds, &c., are made of terra-cotta, for which Sicily is famous. And what a natural expression is sometimes given to the figures of the shepherds, dressed with coats of sheepskin; the heavens, represented by silvered paper; a magnificent moon, effected by a transparency! Poor children content themselves with a few branches of trees with cotton-wool to represent the snow; but one and all must have a doll to place on the Presepio as soon as midnight strikes to say that the Saviour of mankind is born.

Among the guests at Sandringham on a recent occasion was a lady who is now well on in the "forties," but who nearly a score of years ago was the heroine of a little adventure in which Our Own Good Natured One was concerned. The lady was at that time a beauty, and the Prince was certainly more susceptible to female charms than he now is. The lady had been sufficiently fortunate to secure the Prince's acceptation of her invitation to a *fete champetre*, and had made arrangements to pose before her Royal guest *en bergere*. The programme was very simple. As soon as the Prince arrived, the lady, in milkmaid's attire, was to come forward, and, having milked one of the little Alderneys attached to her model dairy-yard, was, with her own fair hands, to whip a syllabub for the Prince's special delectation. At first all went well. The Prince arrived with his friends and was ushered on to the lawn. The lady, in a most fetching milkmaid costume, with ribbons, milking-pail, stool, &c., tripped toward the group of distinguished guests, paused for a moment to drop a rustic but bewitching curtsey, and then led the way to the spot where the cow awaited her. She planted her stool, took her seat upon it (with a bewildering display of coloured stocking), placed her pail in position, and began to milk. Then came an unexpected and unrehearsed effect. The Alderney, probably recognising an unpractised touch, kicked out viciously, and milkmaid, stool, and pail were all knocked over in one conglomerated and undignified heap. It is to the everlasting credit of the Prince that he refrained from laughing, but others who were present were not so fortunate; from that day to this Lady X. has never been able to hear the word syllabub uttered without a blush of confusion.

QUIPS AND CRANKS.

There is one class of Americans who never miss trains. We refer to the defaulting cashiers.

He (at breakfast): "Are you fond of fishballs?" She (from the country): "Oh, I don't know—I never attended any."

Auntie was trying to induce a little boy to go to bed at sundown by saying that the little chickens went to roost at that time. "Yes," said he, "but the old hen goes with them."

Mamma: "Good-bye, dearie; what shall I buy for my little girl?" Helen: "Some bunions, please, so I can tell when the weather is going to change."

"The French speak in the nose, the Germans in the throat, and the English through the teeth." Either of which is more agreeable than speaking through the telephone.

Mistress: "Good gracious! Why, Molly, what have you been doing with this chair?" Servant Maid: "Well, you see, ma'am, the cat kept going on it and tearing the plush, so I spread some mustard on the seat, and now she lets it be."

A young lady who prided herself on her geography, seeing a candle aslant, remarked that it reminded her of the "Leaning Tower of Pisa." "Yes," responded a wag, "with this difference: that is a tower in Italy, while this is a tower in grease."

"What should you think, now," said a professor who was examining a class in Paley's Natural Theology in relation to the laws of cause and effect, "what should you think if you picked up a watch in the street?" "I should think," answered the student, "I was a precious lucky fellow."

"What harm has the lad done you?" asked an old gentleman, roughly collaring a boy who was warming the jacket of another urchin with a bit of wild grape vine. "He ain't done me no harm." "What are you thrashing him for, then?" "'Cause his father and mother never licks him, and I'm doing it for charity."

A deceased city surgeon adopted an ingenious plan for collecting his fees. He had two bells; when he rang one the servant knew the fee was paid, and bowed the visitors out; when he rang the other, the servant said, "I think, sir, you have forgotten to give Mr —— his fee," and did not open the door until the fee was paid.

AN UNGRATEFUL TRAMP.

Benevolent lady: "Poor fellow, and so you are very hungry! Well, here is a cake that I baked myself." Saggs the tramp: "Thanks, maddim, thanks! I may not be able to eat it, but I will use it to kill the next dog that attacks me."

HE DIDN'T DARE.

A man who boarded an open car found a woman occupying one end of the seat, while all the rest of it was empty. He stood for a moment waiting for her to "hitch," but as she made no move he quietly asked:—"Madam, do you wish me to step on you?" "If you dare to!" she promptly replied. "My husband tried it this morning and got left, and now I'm waiting for someone else." He went back to the last seat.

HARD LINES.

First Street Faker: "It's a shame, Bill, to think that anyone would swindle a poor, hard-working man that way." Second Street Faker: "Why, what's the trouble?" First Street Faker: "Here I worked hard for half a day painting up a sparrow into a red-headed Belgian canary, and I'm blowed if the fellow I sold it to didn't give me a counterfeit five-dollar bill for it."

SOMETHING QUICKER THAN LIGHTNING.

"My son," said an economical father, "an express train attains great speed, lightning is proverbial for its rapidity, comets are supposed to hurl themselves through space at the rate of millions of miles a day; but, comparatively speaking, all these things are snails, my boy, all snails." "Why, father," replied the young man, lazily puffing a cigar, "what can possibly go faster than lightning?" "A five pound note, after it is once broken, my son."

HOW TO GET RID OF HER.

There was a man who used to spend his holidays a week before they came on, and on one of these occasions he did nothing but spree; and when it came to the last day his wife said to him, "Well, Tom, ah reckon thee'll start o' working to-day?" "Nay," responded the husband, "Ah think I'll finish week out." "Well," said the wife, "when tha' comes back th'll oather find me hanged or drowned." The words did not touch the gloomy husband; but he went out, and when he had gone about fifty yards he turned back, and shouted through the key-hole, "Oather'll do, Mary."

THAT DREADFUL CHILD.

A minister's little daughter was attending her first church service, at which her father presided. She had never seen him in the pulpit before, and on his entrance there her presence of mind forsook her, and she piped out in a voice expressive of joyful recognition—"Why, there's my papa, up in that box!" Avenging propriety swept down upon the little maiden, and for a season there was a great calm. But the services were grievously long to such a little worshipper, and she became very restless, walking up and down the pew and sighing audibly. Mamma whispered comfortingly —"It won't be long, dear." Whereupon ensued another brief period of quiet; but it was not to last. Tired baby-nature had reached its utmost limit of endurance, and by-and-bye, over the quiet listeners there arose a little voice—clear and plausible and coaxing—"Isn't you nearly done, papa?"

HER HEROIC ACT.

It was just at dusk and in a gloomy section of the street, and the tram-car was rapidly approaching, its bell ringing rapidly in sharp, quick peals of warning, and the light of its front gleaming like a great fiery eye as it came on. Miss Tendrart stood on the kerbstone waiting to cross, when she noted a round-shouldered old man groping forward with stick in hand, apparently cautiously feeling his way. "A blind man!" gasped Miss T.; "and he will be killed. Will nobody save him?" Wild with terror and excitement, she rushed forward and frantically throwing her arms about him as he stood there fumbling with his stick upon the very edge of the track, drew him back with desperate energy just as the car rushed past them, and the man, struggling in her grasp, turned fiercely and demanded—"What d'yer mane squeezing the life out o' me and draggin' me round; sure ye ought to be ashamed, the likes o' a leddy like ye." "Oh, my poor blind man. You are saved!" gasped Miss T. "Sure I'm glad I'm saved, but who's callin' me blind, wid a pair o' eyes I have shinin' like a cat's in a dark cellar."

A LOW-DOWN ESTABLISHMENT.

A tall man, somewhat rumpled, but looking as if he had a lot of native pride and dignity, stepped into a down-town saloon and in a stately way said to the bartender: "A glass of imported beer, sir." "No imported," said the bartender. "Bless me!" exclaimed the tall man. "No imported beer!" "Nothing but the every-day United States beer," said the bartender. The tall man turned scornfully away and walked toward the door. He stopped before he reached it. "Is it cool?" said he to the saloon man. "See them flies limping round on the bar?" said the saloon man. The tall stranger said he did. "Feet frosted from hovering over that beer," said the saloon man. "And is it served in schooners?" asked the tall man. "Regular double deckers!" was the assuring reply of the beer-drawer. The tall man returned to the counter and told the bartender he'd take a glass, but he was afraid it would go against him. The beer was drawn out, and the man walked to the end of the bar where the lunch was. "Stars alive!" he exclaimed. "Crackers and red herring! Is that all you serve for lunch?" "Tuesdays," replied the bartender. "Come around Wednesdays for terrapin and boiled salmon." The dignified man looked disgusted, but he took two red herrings and a handful of crackers. He ordered his beer to be carried to a table, and walked over to sit down by it. "Great Cæsar!" he exclaimed. "Don't you have anything but pine-top tables and hair-bottom chairs?" "Expestin' our marble-top rosewoods in every minute, and our plush sofies ought to have been in last night," said the bartender. "We sent 'em out to get 'em nickel-plated." The tall man ate his herring and crackers and drank his beer, and patronisingly told the clerk that he might draw him another glass. He drank that and then said: "I am introducing a patent memorandum book, sir, for use in your business. You'll find it much more convenient than the slate." "We don't keep a slate," said the bartender. "What?" said the stranger, rising with great dignity, "you don't keep a slate? I suspected the character of your place from the start, sir, but I had no idea it was so low down as that, sir." And the tall man went out of the door so quick that the bung-starter the bartender threw after him wouldn't have caught him if it had been fired out of a gun.

THREE UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS AT SUICIDE.

Henry Montgomery, piecer, Howarth-court, Bolton, was yesterday committed for trial for attempting suicide. The prisoner, who had been out of work for a long time, first took poison, then attempted to cut his throat, and ultimately jumped into a mill pond, from which, with great difficulty, he was rescued. He declared to the officer who arrested him that he would not be at liberty a day before he finished himself.

CREMATED THROUGH A BENZOLINE LAMP.

A shocking lamp accident is reported from Newcastle Emlyn, where Mrs Sarah Jones, sister of the late Dr. Emlyn Jones, the well-known Welsh bard, set fire to her bed-room whilst lighting a benzoline lamp. The lamp suddenly exploded, and the room was completely enveloped in flames. Mrs Jones was burned beyond all recognition, and the entire contents of the room were destroyed.

WILL OF THE LATE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.

Probate of the will, dated March 21st, 1889, of the late Right Hon. and Most Rev. William Thomson, Lord Archbishop of York, of Bishopthorpe Palace, York, D.D., who died December 25th last, aged 71 years, and was the son of Mr John Thomson, of Whitehaven, has been granted to the executors, his sons, Mr Wilfred Forbes Home Thomson and Captain Jocelyn Home Thomson, and Mr Robert Stanley Scholfield, of Sand Hall, Howden, by whom the value of the testator's personal estate has been sworn at £44,570 14s. The testator bequeaths to his wife, Mrs Zoe Thomson, daughter of Mr J. H. Skene, £1,000, such plate, pictures, furniture, and household effects as the executors may deem necessary for her use, and £600 a year during her widowhood. He confirms the settlement of £100 a year on his daughter, Mrs Ethel Zoe Goodwyn, and bequeaths to each of his other children £100 a year during the widowhood of Mrs Thomson, on whose death or remarriage his residuary estate is to be held in trust in equal shares for all his children, subject to the bringing into account of any sums advanced to or settled upon them.

SHOWMEN AND THEIR DWELLINGS.

There was a large gathering of showmen and travellers at the Agricultural Hall, London, yesterday, to protest against the re-introduction of the Moveable Dwellings Bill in Parliament.—Mr H. C. Stephens, M.P., presided, and said the proposed measure would deprive the audience of their means of living. It was, he said, supported by a dangerous class of fussy, important, hypocritical philanthropists, who turned philanthropy into a trade, and lived upon their connection with it.—George Allen, a delegate from the showmen of Manchester, proposed a protest against the re-introduction of the Bill. He read replies to circulars addressed to the Chief Constables of the country, who bore testimony to the general good behaviour of van dwellers. He challenged Mr George Smith, of Coalville, to produce better educated children than his own, though he was born in a van and hoped to die in a van. He had a girl of eleven who could play the pianoforte at sight, and speak French, German, Italian, Spanish, and English. —James Fish, a Good Templar agent, but dweller in the Mission Van, also spoke.—The resolution was carried unanimously, as also a vote of thanks to the chairman and other members of Parliament who had opposed the Bill.—Mr Bostock read extracts from Mr Smith's book, which were received with shouts of "Scandalous!"—Mr Smith afterwards attempted to speak, but was constantly interrupted.—Mr George Sanger stated that no showman's daughter had ever given birth to an illegitimate child.—Among the speakers were two women, Mrs Fish and Mrs Cross, of Liverpool.

TIT-BITS FROM "TRUTH."

The daily papers have been publishing Continental telegrams announcing the impending betrothal of the Hereditary Grand Duke of Luxemburg (Prince William of Nassau) to the Princess Victoria of Wales. I do not fancy that there is any tangible foundation for these reports. The Hereditary Grand Duke would be warmly welcomed as a suitor at any Court in Europe, but he appears to be very difficult to please. It is no secret that there was an ardent wish among the Royal family that he might seek a bride in England, and no wonder, for a Prince who is a Lutheran, a man of the most exemplary character, and heir to at least £250,000 a year, is well worth praying for.

When the Princess of Wales stayed for several weeks at Torquay five years ago, as the guest of the late Duchess of Sutherland, her daughters were so ferociously mobbed whenever they appeared in the streets that they were literally hunted out of the town. The Duchess of Edinburgh had a similar experience of British snobbery at Plymouth last Tuesday, as, having driven into the town, accompanied by the Duke, their carriage was surrounded wherever it stopped by a staring, chattering crowd of the so-called "gentry," and it was followed from place to place with amazing pertinacity. The Duke and Duchess are not likely to attempt any more shopping in Plymouth after the annoyance to which they were subjected.

At a Tory dinner at Bristol last week, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach being present, the following extraordinary statement is reported to have been made by a reverend gentleman who responded to the toast of "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese":—"The Rev. Pitt-Eykyn, in response, mentioned that when he was negotiating recently for an exchange of livings, the Duke of Beaufort stipulated that in coming to Bristol he should support Sir Michael Hicks-Beach. (Applause.)" Which is most deserving of wonder, the unscrupulous partisanship of the duke who could so grossly abuse his position as to impose this condition; the frame of mind of the priest who could publish this insult to his cloth as if it were something to be rather proud of; or the mental condition of the audience who receive such a statement with applause?

When the bearers raised the coffin at the funeral of the Duke of Bedford, it was felt to be very heavy, although the corpse had been cremated. It was then learnt that the Duke had left instructions that a large piece of lead should be placed in it with a statement of the cremation, in case, on his being opened some centuries hence, any suspicion should arise from its being discovered to be empty.

I hear that Mr Justice Denman has decided to resign his seat on the Bench. He has earned his pension, having been appointed a Judge in 1872 by Lord Hatherley.

There are several lessons to be learnt by the result of the Hartlepool election. Home Rule was advocated by Mr Furness and opposed by Sir William Gray. Therefore Home Rule is not dead, so far as the constituencies are concerned. In announcing himself an adherent of Home Rule Mr Furness declared that, if the Irish were not prepared to accept such a measure as would be proposed by Mr Gladstone, we should wait until wiser counsels prevailed, and, in the meantime, turn our attention to other reforms. Therefore, the Irish must realise that the English Liberals intend to do something for themselves if the Irish will not allow us to do something for them. The Tories had to get down Mr James Lowther, Mr Ashmead Bartlett, and such like politicians to induce the Tory electors to vote for Sir William Gray. Therefore, the Tories require very strong pressure to vote for a Liberal Unionist. Putting the Tory vote aside, the majority of Mr Furness was enormous. Liberals can hardly be induced to vote for a Liberal Unionist. Hartlepool, consequently, shows that Home Rule is not dead, but that Liberal Unionism is.

"MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN!"

When "ECCLES!" on the wall flashed out,
In bold and fiery writing,
The Tories, feigning to be blind,
Affected not to see or mind
That message so affrighting.
Gorged with the sweets o' office, still
They lingered at the table.
And, feasting there on place and pay,
Tried hard to laugh the shock away
As but an old wife's fable.

But since the writing once again
So fiercely has been flaming;
And "HARTLEPOOL" writ on the wall,
Has the doomed Government's near fall
So clearly been proclaiming;
Even the crassest Tory now,
Who portents has seen scorning,
Must, blind and dense as he may be,
At least have sight enough to see
Th' last most fateful warning!

By the way, the Attorney-General was doubly wrong in answering Mr Howorth's hypothetical question respecting the legal aspect of Mr Furness's assurances to the seamen, "assuming" that he had made them. A Law Officer should not answer any hypothetical legal question, and this rule was strictly observed by Sir Richard Webster's predecessor. In this particular case, "assuming" that Mr Furness had acted as Mr Howorth implied, Sir Richard was encouraging a petition, and seeking to impose, as Crown Lawyer, his view of the law in respect to the action of a political opponent upon the Judge who would try it; both these things being precisely what he ought not to do in his official capacity.

TO ALL WHO ARE SUFFERING from chronic Kidney and Liver diseases, Diabetes or Bright's disease, or any derangements of the human body, nervous weakness, general debility, lassitude, loss of memory, want of brain power. To introduce it I will send genuine information free of charge of a new cheap and sure cure, the simplest remedy ever discovered in the Mississippi Valley. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to James Holland, 52, Hart-street, High Holborn, London. Menton this paper.—ADVT.

The Editor of the *Medical Annual* for 1890 points out that potash is largely used to add to the solubility of cocoa, and to give a present sold, but that, in marked contrast, Messrs CADBURY supply an absolutely pure Cocoa of the highest quality; and that the name CADBURY on any packet of Cocoa or Chocolate is a guarantee of purity.—ADVT.

DR. WHITE'S COMPOSITION ESSENCE is the original and only genuine. Refuse all imitations. Insist on having Dr. White's, and see that the registered trade mark, DR. WHITE, is on the label.—ADVT.

A FAIR BEAUTIFUL SKIN.—Sulpholine Soap gives the natural tint and peach-like bloom of a perfect complexion; makes the Skin smooth, supple, healthy, comfortable. 6d Tablets. Everywhere.—ADVT

GOOD LUCK.—Buy your Wedding Ring from Poole, Middlesbrough, and ensure an elegant present to every purchaser.—ADVT.

NEW STORY!

WHOSE WAS THE HAND?

By MISS BRADDON, Author of "Lady Audley's Secret," "Like and Unlike," "The Day Will Come," &c.

SYNOPSIS OF OPENING CHAPTERS.

Robert Hatrell and his wife, well-to-do people, with an only daughter, Daisy, nine years old, are established in a country residence in Buckinghamshire, a cottage which they had made into a mansion by additions and alterations. At the time the story opens Mr Hatrell is jubilant because his neighbour Florestan is about to sell him some land which will improve Mr Hatrell's property and give it the amount of ground which it needs as a gentleman's residence. One other character is introduced in Chapter I., viz.—Ambrose Arden, a widower, with one little boy, now at school, who is acting as Daisy's tutor in her French and other studies.

CHAPTER II.
CONFIDENCES.

The moon rose at nine o'clock that evening, and Robert Hatrell sauntered into the garden after dinner to smoke and meditate upon the projected improvements. With him action was everything, and reverie, however pleasant, rarely lasted long. To-night the meditative mood lasted no longer than a single cigarette. This finished, he opened a little gate in the kitchen garden, and strolled across the road, opened another little gate that admitted him into his neighbour's garden, and went straight to the open window of the shabby, square parlour which Ambrose had converted into a study by the simple process of lining it from floor to ceiling with books. A roomy old knee-hole desk occupied the centre of the floor, and three chairs and an old-fashioned sofa completed the sum of the furniture. It looked a snug and congenial room for a student, shabby as it was, in the light of a shaded lamp by which Ambrose sat reading, unconscious that anyone was looking in at him.

"Shut your dusty tome, old book-worm, and come for a stroll in the moonlight," said Hatrell, whereupon the student rose and obeyed him without a word, like a man of weaker will obeying one of stronger will.

A cigarette was offered and taken, and then the two men walked along the road in silence broken only by a common-place remark or two about the weather and the night, until Robert Hatrell said abruptly.

"Are you sure it was the same man?"

"The man you have described to me? Assuredly it was. What other man should know your story?"

"No, perhaps not. I doubt if there is anyone else who would know."

"The whole matter is easy enough to understand. This man is one of many, all on the verge of starvation, refugees of the Commune, who have been dragging out a miserable existence in London since last May—nearly a year. I, who am a Republican and a Nihilist in theory, have sympathies with these men who have tried to reduce theory to practice. So I whipped up a few pounds, your fiver among others, and took the money to a public-house in Clerkenwell where my friends assemble of an evening, and distributed it among them, in accordance with their necessities. In the course of conversation I happened to mention your name, and the man followed me into the street afterwards and questioned me about you. I naturally refused to answer questions which I considered impertinent, and then he told me his story."

"And of course made the worst of it?"

"He told it in a vindictive spirit."

"And you think perhaps that I ought to have acted differently—that Claude Morel, the chemist's assistant, ought at this moment to be my brother-in-law?"

"My dear Hatrell, a man's relations with women are just the one part of his life which no other man has the right to question, and in which counsel and opinion are worse than useless."

"That's no answer," exclaimed Hatrell, impatiently. "Why don't you say at once that I ought to have married a milliner's apprentice and had that man for my brother-in-law?"

"He would not have been a very agreeable connection, I admit, in practice, although in theory all men are equal. There are plenty of men of as low a grade socially whom I would accept as my friends and equals to-morrow—but not Claude Morel. The fellow bears the brand of Cain upon his forehead. It was mean of his stamp who made the Commune what it was. He was one of their speakers, the intellectual element, the force that set ignorance in brains on fire. I am sorry to see great hulking honest fellows under his influence. I could read the history of last year's riot and murder in that little room in Soho. A very dangerous man, your Claude Morel."

"Yet you think he ought to have been my brother-in-law," said Hatrell, slashing at the flowery bank with his stick, harping irritably on the same question.

"No, no, no! Since you were not so far entangled with the sister as to——"

"But I was entangled. I loved her, man. Yes, I was over-head and ears in love with that milliner's apprentice, and had more than half a mind to fling prudence to the winds and marry her. She was very young, very confiding, and altogether innocent. Yes, a grisette in Paris, and innocent. God knows how long that would last. She had left her native village less than a year before I met her; had travelled to Paris to find her brother, who had apprenticed her to a milliner in the Rue Neuve des Petits Champs. Wemet by purest accident in a street crowd; she was hustled and frightened in the mob. I happened to protect her. I talked home with her, ever so far—beyond the Bastille—and so began an acquaintance which might have ended—God knows how—if that young man had not tried to force the running. I have to thank his violence, not my prudence, for my escape, and for my sweet English wife. I shudder to think of the difference such a marriage as that must have made in my life. Did this fellow tell you what has become of his sister—whether she is dead or living?"

"No, he went into no particulars, nor did I encourage him by asking questions. He talked of broken promises, broken hearts, a blighted life, pride and cruelty. I cut him as short as I possibly could, only I considered it my duty to let you know that the man is in London, and that he threatens to have his revenge for his sister's wrongs—her supposed wrongs, we will say—in some way or other."

"That means lying in wait for me at the corner of a London street to shoot me or throw vitriol in my face, I suppose," said Hatrell, with a scornful laugh. "I must take my chance of the bullet or the vitriol."

"It may be only an empty threat, but I own I don't like the man's phy-iognomy or his history, and I recommend you to be on your guard. It might be wise to try and get him out of the country. I dare say he would emigrate to one of the colonies if inducements were made profitable to him."

"Arden, do you think I am such a politroon as to buy my life from a foreign bully? He threatened me in Paris, and I turned him out of my room neck and crop. He wanted to frighten me into a marriage with his sister by pretending to believe that I was her suitor. But that was not the worst. When I told him that marriage was impossible he insinuated that there might be other arrangements. A rich young Englishman in love with a girl of inferior station might make such a settlement as would ensure the comfort and respectability of her future life without the legal tie. In a word, the man was, and is, a scoundrel."

"Perhaps I am wrong, but I have your wife to think of as well as you. What if this man were to come here and tell his story——"

"To my wife? Let him. She will believe no man's word against mine. Indeed, I have talked to her about Mademoiselle, or at least I have told her, half in sport and half in earnest, that I was once in love with a French grisette; and I am not afraid to tell her the truth, that in my salad days, two years before I saw her fair young face, I was very hard hit by that same grisette, and trifled with her longer than I ought, and had even had a mind to marry her, and only pulled myself up sharp when her brute of a brother interfered. I need not tell her I sent the girl a hundred pounds in my farewell letter, and wished her a good husband in her own rank of life who would respect her all the more for that slip in the knowledge that I could sign myself in all sincerity and honour her respectful friend."

"She accepted your hundred pounds, I suppose?"

"I hope so. It never came back to me; but as I received no acknowledgment from my poor little friend it is likely enough her brother intercepted my money and her letter, counselled her to refuse the gift indignantly perhaps, and then put my bank notes in his pocket. I believe Monsieur Morel to be capable of anything sneaking and infamous."

"And you never heard of Antoinette after that letter?"

"Never. I left Paris the next day. The city seemed dull and dark without the light of those southern eyes. It was in autumn, the dead season, and I went off to St. Petersburg, and thence to Odessa to look at my father's work there, and to feel how I was not so good a man as he. The air has turned chilly. Will you come in and play a rubber?"

"With pleasure."

They turned and went back to River Lawn. Mother and daughter were sitting at a small round table, with the light of a reading lamp concentrated upon their bright eager faces, as they arranged the pieces of a large puzzle map, the child intensely eager to forestall her mother.

"Oh, mother, you've put India next to Russia—one so hot and the other so cold. That can't be right, and yet the pieces fit," said Daisy.

The round table card-table was set ready at a respectful distance from the fire. Two shaded lamps shed their mild radiance upon the cards and the markers. The rubber was a nightly institution, and there were few evenings upon which Ambrose Arden did not come in to take his part in the game, he and Mrs Hatrell playing against the master of the house, who liked no partner at whist so well as dummy. Clara and her partner were in perfect sympathy in their loathing of cards, and therefore they both played an unimpassioned, ineffectual, and often inattentive game, which left Robert Hatrell master of the situation. He played with a fervour which would have carried a Bill through the House, or silenced an enemy's fort, and he enjoyed the eager, rapid hour's play with an enjoyment which was exhilarating to his companions, and then, the hour having ended in triumph on his part and the complete humiliation of his opponents, he would rise from the table, exultant and beaming, and pace up and down the room talking as few men can talk, with a rush of eloquence even about small things.

(To be continued.)

The Editor of the *Medical Annual*, after a careful examination of CADBURY'S Cocoa, pronounces it to be both a food and a beverage of the highest quality.—ADVT.

STONIO THE STONE-CUTTER:

A TALE OF WITCHCRAFT AND SCIENCE.

By W. H. PECK.

CHAPTER XXXVII.
AT THE RUINED MONASTERY.

In a large apartment of the ruined monastery, while the royal council was being held at the hour of midnight in the royal palace, were six persons, four of them known to the reader—Stonio, Lady Hilda, Carlos, and Sanlez.

The other two were an aged but still vigorous pair—Galvez Sonota and his wife Ullima, once servitors of the once powerful Villotas.

These two had welcomed the arrival of the others at the edge of the monastery pond in the morning, A loud whistle from Carlos had summoned them from the part of the ruins they occupied.

The kind-hearted old Ullima soon attended to the wants of the fugitive young Countess. Lady Hilda was soon clothed in the coarse but clean and neat garments provided for her. The old woman speedily prepared a savoury meal for all; Stonio was furnished with dry clothing by old Galvez, as were Carlos and Sanlez, and then those who had arrived in the boat sought needed repose.

They slept for hours, old Galvez and his wife ever on the watch for alarm. The day passed silently, without disquiet. Even in the sunniest and most pleasant days the old monastery was seldom visited. In fact, months sometimes passed without bringing anyone to the ruins. This arose from the report that they were haunted by the spirits of the ancient monks who had lived and died there years and years before. Besides, it was difficult of access, its steep walls rising from the river on two sides, and on the other from extensive marshes, wholly impassable, with no means of lining it from floor to ceiling with books. A roomy old knee-hole desk occupied the centre of the floor, and three chairs and an old-fashioned sofa completed the sum of the furniture. It looked a snug and congenial room for a student, shabby as it was, in the light of a shaded lamp by which Ambrose sat reading, unconscious that anyone was looking in at him.

"Shut your dusty tome, old book-worm, and come for a stroll in the moonlight," said Hatrell, whereupon the student rose and obeyed him without a word, like a man of weaker will obeying one of stronger will.

A cigarette was offered and taken, and then the two men walked along the road in silence broken only by a common-place remark or two about the weather and the night, until Robert Hatrell said abruptly.

"Are you sure it was the same man?"

"The man you have described to me? Assuredly it was. What other man should know your story?"

"No, perhaps not. I doubt if there is anyone else who would know."

"The whole matter is easy enough to understand. This man is one of many, all on the verge of starvation, refugees of the Commune, who have been dragging out a miserable existence in London since last May—nearly a year. I, who am a Republican and a Nihilist in theory, have sympathies with these men who have tried to reduce theory to practice. So I whipped up a few pounds, your fiver among others, and took the money to a public-house in Clerkenwell where my friends assemble of an evening, and distributed it among them, in accordance with their necessities. In the course of conversation I happened to mention your name, and the man followed me into the street afterwards and questioned me about you. I naturally refused to answer questions which I considered impertinent, and then he told me his story."

"And of course made the worst of it?"

"He told it in a vindictive spirit."

"And you think perhaps that I ought to have acted differently—that Claude Morel, the chemist's assistant, ought at this moment to be my brother-in-law?"

"My dear Hatrell, a man's relations with women are just the one part of his life which no other man has the right to question, and in which counsel and opinion are worse than useless."

"That's no answer," exclaimed Hatrell, impatiently. "Why don't you say at once that I ought to have married a milliner's apprentice and had that man for my brother-in-law?"

"He would not have been a very agreeable connection, I admit, in practice, although in theory all men are equal. There are plenty of men of as low a grade socially whom I would accept as my friends and equals to-morrow—but not Claude Morel. The fellow bears the brand of Cain upon his forehead. It was mean of his stamp who made the Commune what it was. He was one of their speakers, the intellectual element, the force that set ignorance in brains on fire. I am sorry to see great hulking honest fellows under his influence. I could read the history of last year's riot and murder in that little room in Soho. A very dangerous man, your Claude Morel."

"Yet you think he ought to have been my brother-in-law," said Hatrell, slashing at the flowery bank with his stick, harping irritably on the same question.

"No, no, no! Since you were not so far entangled with the sister as to——"

"But I was entangled. I loved her, man. Yes, I was over-head and ears in love with that milliner's apprentice, and had more than half a mind to fling prudence to the winds and marry her. She was very young, very confiding, and altogether innocent. Yes, a grisette in Paris, and innocent. God knows how long that would last. She had left her native village less than a year before I met her; had travelled to Paris to find her brother, who had apprenticed her to a milliner in the Rue Neuve des Petits Champs. We met by purest accident in a street crowd; she was hustled and frightened in the mob. I happened to protect her. I talked home with her, ever so far—beyond the Bastille—and so began an acquaintance which might have ended—God knows how—if that young man had not tried to force the running. I have to thank his violence, not my prudence, for my escape, and for my sweet English wife. I shudder to think of the difference such a marriage as that must have made in my life. Did this fellow tell you what has become of his sister—whether she is dead or living?"

"No, he went into no particulars, nor did I encourage him by asking questions. He talked of broken promises, broken hearts, a blighted life, pride and cruelty. I cut him as short as I possibly could, only I considered it my duty to let you know that the man is in London, and that he threatens to have his revenge for his sister's wrongs—her supposed wrongs, we will say—in some way or other."

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"It may be only an empty threat, but I own I don't like the man's phy-iognomy or his history, and I recommend you to be on your guard. It might be wise to try and get him out of the country. I dare say he would emigrate to one of the colonies if inducements were made profitable to him."

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